

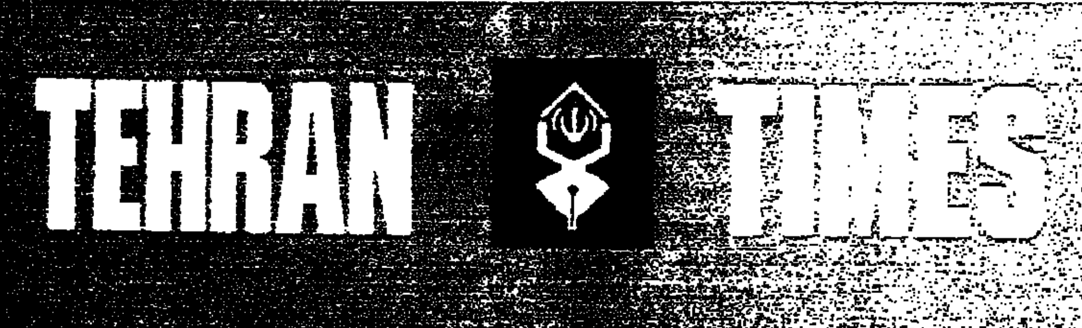
President Rafsanjani to Inaugurate 2,000 Projects Today

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — On the occasion of the Construction Jihad Week, President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani will inaugurate 2,000 development projects throughout the country in a live television program today.

The development projects which include water supply, electrification and rural transportation, have been allotted an amount of 29.6 billion rials. Some 291,431 rural families will enjoy the services and facilities of these projects.

(Contd on Pg. 14)



TEHRAN TIMES

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Iran's Support for Syria Unwavering



DAMASCUS, Syria (June 9): Syrian President Hafez al-Assad (L) receives Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati (R) in Damascus. The Iranian minister declared that the two countries "must concert themselves and exchange views on issues relevant to the Middle East". (AFP PHOTO)

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati here yesterday said that the elections in Israel proved that those who thought compromise with the Zionist regime would result in vindication of the rights of the Palestinians were deadly mistaken.

Speaking to the reporters at the airport upon arrival from his two-day visit to Syria, he said, the Zionist regime has not given up its previous objective of establishing an empire stretching from the Nile to the Euphrates. There is no substantial difference between the two Israeli parties, for the long-term objectives of the two parties are identical, he said, adding that both the parties want to dominate the regime.

On the objective of his trip to Damascus he said, he carried a message from President Rafsnajani to President Hafez al Assad. The spirit of the message was that Iran would continuously support Syria which is a front line state against Israel.

He termed his discussions with the Syrian president and premier as satisfactory. The Islamic Republic of Iran is determined to strengthen the anti-Israeli bloc, he said.

Syrian President Hafez al Assad in a meeting Sunday night in Damascus with the Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, appreciated the Islamic Republic's all-out support for Arab states.

He noted that Iran resisted all Zionist plots aimed at sowing discord among Muslims throughout the region.

As to tactical moves taken in the occupied lands as a result of the recent Israeli elections, Assad underlined the need to hold a summit meeting of Arab states and

(Contd on Pg. 14)

Bahrain Seeks Good Ties With Iran

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) — Bahrain wants good relations with Iran and is confident the Islamic Republic will end its alleged efforts to destabilize the government in Manama, the Bahraini foreign minister said Monday.

"We hope to have good relations with Iran, and only want our neighbor to know that Islam calls for peace," Sheikh Mohammad ibn Mubarak told the Kuwaiti daily *Al-Seyassah*.

"I believe that everything now is finished, and that the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council (PGCC) understood our message and reacted appropriately," the minister said.

Iran has denied any involvement in the unrest in Bahrain.

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Maleki said Monday his country was ready to send a delegation to Manama to investigate the Bahraini charges. Tehran has also offered to mediate between the government and opposition.

Since December 1994, Bahrain has faced a wave of protests, arson attacks and bombings led by Shiite Muslims demanding a restoration of Parliament suspended in 1975 by the authorities.

At least 22 people have been killed. (Contd on Pg. 14)

President Rabbani's Message Submitted to President Rafsanjani



Mojtaba Takin — Tehran Times

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani here Monday received visiting Afghan Vice-Premier, Seyed Ali Mohammad Javid, who submitted to him a written message from Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani.

The Afghan official said that he had good talks with the Iranian officials for further activation of the joint Iran-Afghanistan Economic Commission.

Tauding Iran's humanitarian aids to the Afghan people, Javid called for continuation of Iran's assistance to solve the country's domestic problems.

He also briefed President Rafsanjani on the social, political, economic and military developments in that country.

President Rafsanjani said that Iranian nation and government closely watch the developments in that country.

The president further underlined the need for unity and solidarity among different Afghan rival factions and underlined the need for restoration of peace in Afghanistan adding that reconstruction would be materialized in peace.

Only peace can reduce the suffering of the Afghan people, he added.

President Rafsanjani expressed satisfaction over the trend of bilateral ties specially cooperation within the framework of the joint economic commission.

Participation of Foreign Firms in Fair Sign of U.S. Failure



AL ESHAQ

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — The participation of foreign firms in the second Tehran international exhibition of

(Contd on Pg. 14)

Preliminary Agreement Reached at Chechen Peace Talks

NAZRAN, Russia (AP) — Chechen separatists and Russian military authorities reached preliminary agreement Monday on withdrawing federal troops from Chechen villages and guerrilla disarmament, news reports said.

The two sides were apparently close to reaching on a draft agreement of military issues, the ITAR-TASS and Interfax news agencies said. (Contd on Pg. 14)



NAZRAN, Russian Federation (June 9): A Russian major prevents a Chechen fighter from approaching the delegations negotiating peace in Nazran for the breakaway republic. (AFP PHOTO)

Hezbollah Claims Second Ambush of Israeli Soldiers

BEIRUT (AFP) — Hezbollah activists on Monday claimed a second attack against the Israeli Army in South Lebanon less than 10 hours after its first ambush.

"One of our commando units attacked with light arms and anti-tank rockets at around 2:10 p.m. (1110 GMT) an Israeli Army patrol made up of infantry and an M-113 troop transport on the Barasheet road," a Hezbol-

(Contd on Pg. 14)

Ultra-Rightwing Party Pledges Full Support to Islamists

Compiled From Dispatches

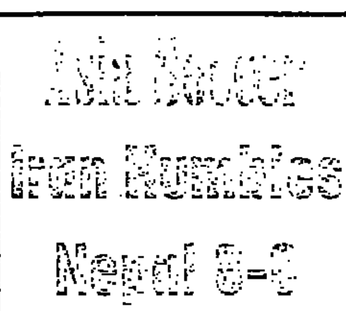
TEHRAN — Islamist leader Necmettin Erbakan on Monday formally started talks for forming a coalition government, winning the full support of a small ultra-rightwing party.

"We are extending our hand to all parties. Let's form a government that will save our country from the current crisis," Erbakan, leader of the pro-Islamic Welfare Party, said.

"We pledge our full support to Mr. Erbakan," Muhsin Yazicioglu, leader of the Grand Unity Party, said after a meeting with Erbakan.

Welfare, which led the December parliamentary elections, was blocked from power by a coalition of two center-right parties which

(Contd on Pg. 14)



See Page 15

TEHRAN TIMES

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In The Name of Allah

Then when he saw the sun rising, he said: Is this my Lord? Is this the greatest? So when it set, he said: O my people! surely I am clear of what you set up (with Allah).

(HOLY QORAN) (6:78)

OPINION

Iran, Russia Strategic Allies

Following the collapse of the former Soviet Union and downfall of communism, the Russian leaders sought to put an end to the iron curtain policy and sought closer cooperation with regional countries.

Iran's geopolitical location and Russia's proximity to the Persian Gulf and Central Asian regions have prepared a groundwork for closer ties and cooperation between two mighty neighbors.

Today, the two countries enjoy close ties and cooperation due to their similar stands on crucial regional and international issues. The common interests of both have yet further converged their short- and long-term policies, turning the two neighbors into strategic allies.

In the wake of the collapse of the bipolar world order, the U.S. envisaged itself as the sole superpower in the world. Therefore, it thought of forging a new world order and expanding its sphere of influence as far as the territories on the Russian borders.

Although Russia has done away with its old political and economic system and is set on adopting new methods of running the country, it is by no means willing to have its territorial integrity imperiled and its role in the international scene undermined.

Iran has on several occasions reiterated that it opposes the expansionist objectives sought by the U.S. and has made it quite clear that the NATO expansion and infiltration into the former Eastern European countries will not be in the interest of the regional countries.

Moreover, regarding the issues existing in some countries in the Middle East, Central Asia and Caucasus, such as Afghanistan, Tajikistan and Lebanon, the two countries have expressed similar views and cooperated in order to restore peace and stability in those countries.

Rapid economic development and implementation of infrastructural projects in Iran, particularly recent inauguration of the Mashhad-Sarakhs-Tajan railway, have made it even more beneficial for the two countries to cooperate in the areas of commerce, economy and technology.

As the Russian Duma vice-speaker recently noted, Iran's different commodities will find appropriate market in Russia. Also, the cooperation of Russian experts in completing Bushehr nuclear power plant has been welcomed by the Iranian authorities and accords have been signed by the two countries' officials to this end.

Considering the political will and determination of Iran and Russia to consolidate their ties and expand their cooperation in different fields, bright prospects await both countries if certain steps are taken by the officials of the two countries: import-export procedures between the two countries should be relaxed to the maximum possible level; and traders of the two countries should be given preferential treatment by both sides. This will prepare the ground for closer cooperation between the two countries in economic, political and military areas.

Leader: Supreme Court's Role Crucial in Enforcing Law

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN – The Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei, in a meeting here Monday with the chief justice and some judges of Iran's Supreme Court underlined the important role of a healthy judiciary in helping to achieve the objectives of the Islamic government and shaping people's social behavior within the framework of the law.

The Leader also praised the continuous efforts of the Iranian Judiciary made to restore the rights of people and abolish the wrong.

Viewing the judges of the Supreme Court as the scientific and intellectual bases of the Judiciary, the grand Leader noted that the Judiciary is a system made up of interrelated and coordinated constituents. He further said that the system's management functions as its brain and the Supreme Court is considered its heart.



TEHRAN – Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei, receives the chief justice and a group of judges of Iran's Supreme Court.

Therefore, the Leader said, since the Supreme Court guarantees the health of the other parts of the Judiciary, it should function correctly and precisely.

The revered ayatollah said the efficiency of the Judiciary should be enhanced, given the fact that it is ruled by the Islamic laws, *Sharia*.

The Judiciary is meant to function in such a way as to administer justice, restore and uphold the rights of people and do away with injustice, Ayatollah Khamenei said, adding that the Supreme Court's judges and advisors and other sections of the Judiciary are doing their utmost with this end in view.

In view of the great progress made so far in this regard, the Judiciary is expected to act as an organ that helps, in the real sense of the word, the oppressed and innocent people throughout the country, and inspires hope in the heart of every individual regardless of his position, belief and religion, the grand ayatollah stressed.

The Leader of the Islamic Revolution once again lauded the progress made by the Supreme Court in settling the impending cases and called Chief Justice Ayatollah Mohammad Mohammadi Gilani one of the prominent personalities of Iran with high scientific qualifications, sicerity and piety.

Prior to the Leader's address, the chief justice briefed the Leader on the performance of the Supreme Court and the lofty human and moral characteristics of the judges working with the Supreme Court.

6th Int'l Zoroastrian Gathering to Be Held in Tehran

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN – The Sixth International Zoroastrian Gathering is to be held in Tehran as of Jun. 19, 1996 for a period of four days, said the executive manager and chairman of the convention, Mahyar Ardeshiri, in an interview with the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA).

He added that representatives of international Zoroastrian societies from India, Pakistan, Britain, Canada, the U.S., Australia, New Zealand, United Arab Emirates, and Italy will attend the meeting.

Expressing his gratitude to the Iranian officials for their cooperation in holding the seminar, Ardeshiri noted that the Iranian ministries and institutions have voiced their preparedness to do whatever needed in this regard.

"So far, some 700 Zoroastrians from all over the world have registered for participation in the gathering," he said, adding, "Promoting cooperation among the Zoroastrian societies all over the world in order to preserve their cultural and religious heritage, improving their living standards and raising their social status are among the objectives behind holding the convention."

The chairman of the congress underlined the fact that the Zoroastrians all over the world regard Iran as the birthplace of Prophet Zoroaster and the sacred homeland of their ancestors.

"That is why they come on a pilgrimage to Iran so eagerly, and many thanks should be given to the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran for their providing facilities to the Zoroastrians from other countries, enabling them to travel to this country," he concluded.

Velayati: Bahrain Should Respond to People's Demand

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN – Bahraini government should consider the demand of its nation to solve the crisis in that country, Iran's Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati told the reporters in Damascus Sunday.

Velayati, who is here on an official visit with a message from President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani for Syrian President Hafez al-Assad, renewed Iran's offer to mediate between the people and government of Bahrain, an IRNA report said.

Last week also, in his interview with the *Al-Hayat* Arabic magazine, Velayati had offered Iran's good offices to Bahrain to help end the crisis which is plaguing the archipelago state in the Persian Gulf.

The Bahraini opposition has rejected the government's accusations that the unrest is foreign inspired, and said that the authorities' refusal to meet demands of the majority for greater rights and representation has only worsened the situation.

"Other countries should not interfere in Bahrain's internal affairs," Velayati said, adding "The Islamic Republic of Iran will mediate provided the two sides (government and opposition) agree."

He again refuted the allegations of Iran's interference in the crisis in Bahrain.

Iran Ready to Dispatch Fact-Finding Delegation to Bahrain

TEHRAN (IRNA) – A senior Foreign Ministry official brushed aside claims leveled by Bahrain alleging Iran of interfering in the internal affairs of that country, saying Tehran is ready to dispatch a fact-finding delegation to Manama to review Bahraini officials' purported evidence against the Islamic Republic.

In an interview with the Persian daily *Iran* printed Monday, Deputy Foreign Minister for Education and Research Affairs Abbas Maleki added that Bahrain's problems are internal. He expressed hope that officials in that country would correct their blunder by not attributing their own domestic problems to foreign elements.

According to most Western media reports, the root causes of the popular protests in Bahrain relate to the political structure of the state, the people's non-participation in the decision-making process in the country and to economic problems.

Maleki, who recently visited the four Persian Gulf states of Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and Bahrain, remarked that Tehran officially recognized Bahrain immediately after it gained its independence from Iran, adding that Iran has always respected Manama's sovereignty.

Following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, the situation in the Persian Gulf states that had traditional government structures, underwent major shifts and the first demand of the people was the right to take part in the political process, he said.

He noted that some regional countries paid closer attention to this demand and introduced various measures allowing people's participation but some states remained nonchalant.

Maleki referred to Kuwait as one of the countries that harmonized with recent developments, saying Kuwaitis are allowed to express their views in the press and in parliament.

To link their domestic problems with foreign elements, Bahraini officials last week forced some persons who were said to be among the opposition, to

(Contd. on Pg. 15)

Iran's Efforts to Restore Peace in Afghanistan Praised

Tehran Times Service

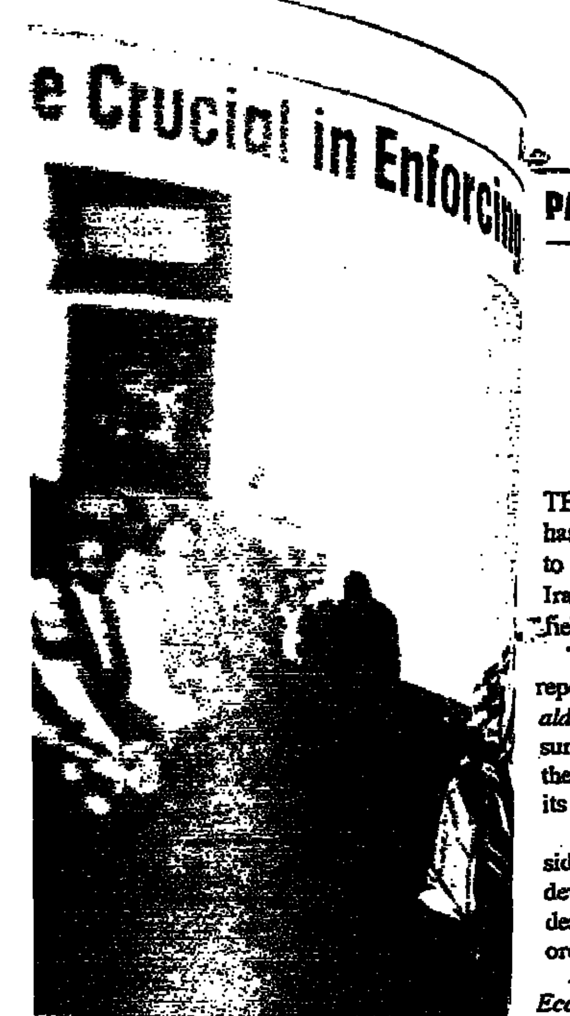
TEHRAN – Afghan government and nation laud the brotherly attempts of the Islamic Republic of Iran to restore stability and peace in the war-torn country, said a Kabul-based weekly on Sunday.

Payam-e Shahid (voice of the martyr) also referred to Iran's mediation role to help build confidence among the various Afghan factions and restore peace to the country, IRNA reported.

Payam-e Shahid, the organ of the Harakat-e Islami led by Ayatollah Mohammad Asef Mohseni, called as effective the peace efforts of the Iranian officials, and warned of imperialist plots to prolong the Afghan crisis at this sensitive juncture.

It pointed that because of its "good-neighborly and brotherly attitude towards the Afghan people" Iran has succeeded in winning the confidence of the Afghan government and people, while the so-called peace efforts of other countries have floundered.

The weekly singled out for praise the diplomatic shuttle of Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Asia-Oceania Affairs Alaeddin Boroujerdi•



French Total Reaffirms Commitment to Iran's Sirri Project

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — Total of France has reaffirmed its commitment to last July's contract to develop Iran's Sirri A and E offshore oil fields in the Persian Gulf.

The restatement follows recent reports in the *International Herald Tribune* , referring to pressure from the U.S. Congress on the oil company to withdraw from its $ 600 million contract.

Total replaced a Dutch subsidiary of Conoco of the U.S. to develop the oilfields after President Clinton issued an emergency order to nullify the deal.

According to *Middle East Economic Digest* , work on the contract is continuing more or less on schedule. A jack-up drill was being moved into position for delineation drilling in mid-June and bids are being evaluated for the main offshore contraction package.

International contractors tendered bids in May for the main offshore construction work, worth over $300 million, led by French firms, Technip Geoproduction, ETPM and Bouygues, which are said to be favored to win the award.

The Sirri investment represents Iran's first buy-back project. Another 11 schemes, unveiled last November, are also going ahead despite political threats from the U.S. to punish non-American firms cooperating with Iran's oil and gas development.

Contractors are due this month to tender offers for Balal and Soroush offshore oil fields, aimed to produce 40,000 and 60,000 barrels of oil per day respectively.

The U.S. Congress has been deliberating plans for more than six months to punish foreign firms investing more than $40 million in Iran's oil industry following the failure by Clinton to win international support for his unilateral ban imposed last year.

Several trading partners, particularly the European Union, have expressed alarms about the U.S. threat to use extra-territorial legislation to impose secondary sanctions and have warned of legal action and the possible eruption of trade wars.

Analysts here have questioned the viability of the U.S. ban both in the short and medium term. Experts conclude that current proposals will not affect Iran for several years but are more likely to rebound on the world's growing need for oil.

Iraqi Oil Minister Meets Total Boss

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — Iraqi Oil Minister Amer Rasheed on Monday met with the President of the Total Oil Company, Thierry Desmarest, and discussed the partial lifting of the UN embargo on its oil exports, the company said, as qouted by AFP.

"We discussed application of UN Resolution 986 and at a general level the whole of our relations with Iraq," the company said.

Total, which is interested in buying Iraqi crude, did not say if a contract had been signed.

The resolution, voted on May 20, authorizes Iraq to export two billion dollar worth of oil every six months, or 700,000 barrels a day, for the purchase of food and medicine.

Rasheed said Sunday that Iraq would give priority to countries which had backed the lifting of sanctions in striking deals in the future.

Iraq was given a quota of 800,000 barrels a day for the next six months by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) at its recent meeting in Vienna.

Rasheed, who is in Paris until Tuesday, has held talks with Industry Minister Franck Borotra. He is also to hold talks with the management of the Elf Oil Company and representatives of the employers' association CNPF.

The Iraqi minister said Sunday he was anxious to sign early contracts with French oil companies.

"Friendly countries which supported us, like France and Russia, will certainly take priority when it comes to signing contracts," Rasheed said.

Moldavian Energy Sector Hit by Payment Crisis, Price Gaps

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — The Moldavian energy sector is in a deep crisis caused by the chronic failure of the consumers to pay for the consumed energy and the dramatic gap between the producer's price of electricity and heat and the total cost of their production, the Moldavian Economics Minister declared yesterday as quoted by ITAR-TASS.

The minister, Valery Babutsak, was speaking at a meeting with representatives of the Moldavian labor unions which staged an act of protest against the recent government decision to make some categories of heat and electricity consumers pay more for both.

According to the labor union leaders, the overwhelming majority of the republic's population driven to despair by unemployment and low wages is unable to pay for the communal services and will not survive yet another price hike.

Valery Babutsak explained that the government spends more than two million lei (some 400,000 U.S. dollars) every year to generate electricity, while it gets a mere 500,000 lei (around 100,000 U.S. dollars) in payments for its consumption.

The major heat and electricity generating enterprises in Moldavia for their part owe more than 400 million dollars to the Russian Gasprom Stock Company for the delivery of natural gas to the republic.

The repayment of the debt is proceeding extremely slowly.

The Russian Embassy in Kishinev reports that no more than one percent of the due payments were received for the Russian energy resources in the first quarter of this year, and only two percent of last year's outstanding debt has been repaid by Moldavia to date.

Kishinev, citing economic difficulties, has repeatedly asked for the rescheduling of the debts.

Oil Output Stable in Russia

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — The Russo-Byelorussian Petroleum Company Slavneft succeeded in maintaining a stable level of oil extraction last year and to bring it to 13.2 million tons, ITAR-TASS reported from Moscow.

This conclusion was drawn by participants in the meeting of Slavneft shareholders in Moscow yesterday.

The stable level of oil output was achieved through stability in the maintenance of wells. Early in 1996, as many as 3.3 thousand wells were operating. A total of 118 of them went into operation last year, and over 300,000 tons of oil was extracted from them.

Participants in the meeting said that the pace of oil extraction is to persist in 1996.

Despite the improvement of production indexes of oil processing enterprises of the company in 1995, the volume of the marketing of petroleum products dropped sharply.

Altogether 15.4 million tons of oil products were produced last year. Out of this amount over 9.5 million tons were produced at Russian oil refineries, and the remaining amount at the Mozyr Oil Refinery in Byelorussia, which is not included in the company.

In 1995, Slavneft exported 6.2 million tons of oil. The biggest amount of oil was shipped to remote foreign countries.

Because of non-payments by consumers and lowering of the volume of marketing of oil products, the company's enterprises experienced the shortage of funds, which led to the growth of debt to the federal budget. It increased from 152 to 444 billion roubles within one year.

The company cooperated most actively with Byelorussia, participants in the meeting noted. Specifically, it has been possible to increase considerably oil delivery to the Mozyr Oil Refinery, which led to the improvement of financial indexes of its activity.

It was decided to overhaul the enterprise speedily with the support of the Byelorussian government. The total cost of the project is estimated at 300 million dollars. As a result of the reconstruction which is planned to be completed this year, the degree of oil processing may increase to 82 percent and the quality of the products may improve considerably.

Transportation Sector's Working Capital, 12,000bn Rials

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — Minister of Roads and Transportation Akbar Torkan said yesterday that the working capital of the transportation sector amounts to 12,000 billion rials.

Of the total working capital, some 600 billion rials is related to road transportation while 400 billion rials belongs to the air transportation and the remaining to other sub-sections.

TORKAN

The Ardakan-Chador Maloo-Meibod-Badrood railroad will be completed by the end of the current Iranian year, he said adding, the new railroad will connect Bandar Abbas to Tehran via Meibod instead of Isfahan.

The products of the Chador Maloo, Golgohar and Choghart mines will be transported to the Isfahan steel mill via Ardakan.

Yazd also connects Khorasan Province to Khuzestan Province.

The Yazd city is the crossroads of Iranian railway system, he said, adding, the Yazd railway station will be among the most beautiful ones in the country.

AIOC to Work Out Shipment of Early Oil

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — Although the Turkish government has taken back its proposals to finance shipment of early oil through the western route, if AIOC does not find foreign sources of financing, it will be able to build the oil pipeline itself, President of AIOC, Terry Adams, told reporters, as quoted by IRAN-Turan.

Adams said that currently they are making the preliminary preparations of the pipeline and in September, 1996 the tender for its construction will be announced.

Export Increase Can Help India Pay Off $4bn Loan

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — An increase in Indian exports would enable New Delhi to pay off an additional $four billion of its external debt liabilities and trade balances, said a report by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), IRNA reported.

India needs to enhance its exports to reach $40 billion in 1996-97, reflecting a hike of some $one billion above the official target, added the report. External debt repayment will increase to $14 billion in the same period, or $two billion more compared to the previous year, it wrote.

The FICCI report recommended strategies for increasing exports beyond the target, including the further promotion of Indian products in existing and emerging markets, opening up exclusive trade outlets in markets of Indian goods especially in areas having ethnic and cultural affinity with India, increasing the shelf life of Indian products.

Art Courses From Primary School to University Level: IPO's Arts Bureau

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN— The newly established Training Department of the Islamic Propagation Organization's (IPO) Arts Bureau has established training courses in the framework of a very comprehensive project, covering a wide range of arts, from architecture and visual arts to music and literature at all levels, from primary school to M.A courses.



MOHAMMADI MOTLAQ

Saeid Mohammady Motlaq, Head of the Public Relations and International Department of IPO's Art Bureau announced the good news for those interested in studying arts in any possible level in an exclusive interview with the *Tehran Times* yesterday.

The art majors offered at university level at the IPO's Arts Bureau and the certificates issued and approved by the Ministry of Culture and Higher education are as follows, according to Mohammady Motlaq:

Drawing (B.A & M.A); Graphics (B.A); Architecture (B.A); Handicrafts (B.A); Music (M.A & B.A); Cinema (three different majors, M.A & B.A); Theater (two different majors, M.A & B.A); Marionette Show (M.A & B.A) and Dramatic Literature (M.A & B.A).

The center began its training activities at a small scale back in 1993 with 800 students studying in three different majors and by and by expanded its activities to the present above mentioned level.

Asked about the other educational activities of the bureau, Mohammadi Motalq referred to the art vocational schools affiliated to the IPO's Arts Bureau, running under the supervision of *Zohour-e Aaftaab Educatinal Institute* of the IPO, which is in charge of establishment of non-profit art schools.

Out of 1,055 filmscripts written by the students of these schools so far, five of them have already been used as scenarios for full length feature films.

Another outstanding activity of the Arts Bureau is sponsoring the International *Soureh Film and Video Festival*. Last month this prestigious festival concluded its third year's activities at a very satisfactory level in Isfahan.

The festival focussed on professional video filmmaking and documentary works this year.

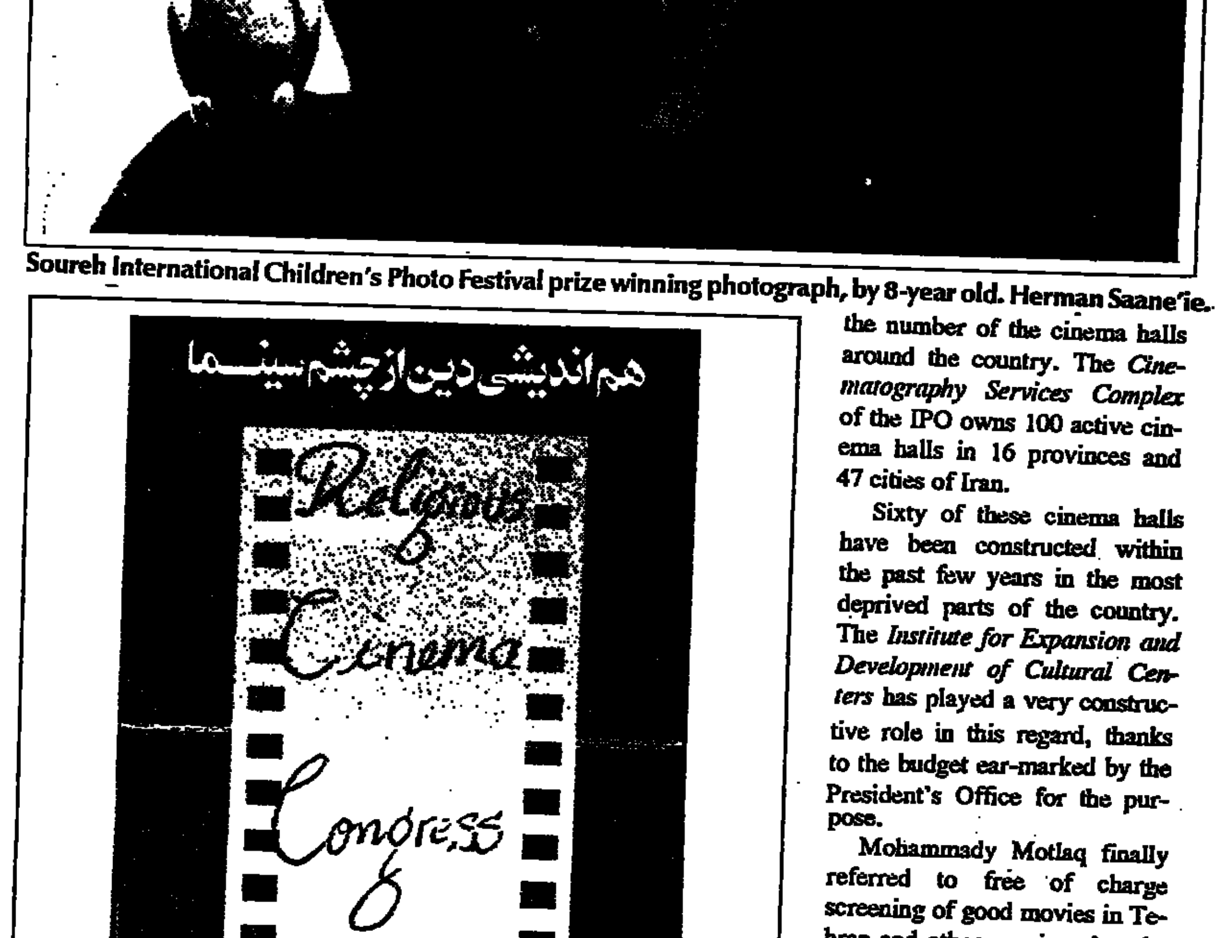
There has also been the *Soureh International Children Photography Festival* and the *Religious Cinema Congress* in the glorious record of the Art Bureau's last year record.

The IPO has also established an institute with the exclusive task of producing, dubbing and procuring scientific, technical and training films. For the time being, due to technical difficulties, this institute is merely procuring and dubbing foreign scientific and educational films.

The Arts Bureau has also been successful in expansion of the number of the cinema halls around the country. The *Cinematography Services Complex* of the IPO owns 100 active cinema halls in 16 provinces and 47 cities of Iran.

Sixty of these cinema halls have been constructed within the past few years in the most deprived parts of the country. The *Institute for Expansion and Development of Cultural Centers* has played a very constructive role in this regard, thanks to the budget ear-marked by the President's Office for the purpose.

Mohammady Motlaq finally referred to free of charge screening of good movies in Tehran and other provinces' parks during the weekends. "Over one million citizens have watched these films," he said, "and that is besides the large number of people who use the T.V and computer games installed in the parks and at the cinema halls' waiting lobbies."



Soureh International Children's Photo Festival prize winning photograph, by 8-year old. Herman Saane'ie.



Soureh International Children's Photo Festival prize winning photograph, by 8-year old Mehrnoush Soleymani.

Seminar Highlights World Crafts Day

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — A seminar was held in the campus of the Art University here yesterday to mark World Crafts Day.

Jointly sponsored by the university, the Iranian Handicrafts Organization, the Iranian Handmade Carpets Organization, along with other organizations, the seminar underlined the most vital problem faced by the handicrafts industry in the country today.

"The handicrafts industry in Iran lacks a systematic organization and a united strategy," the deputy president of the Art University, Saeed Zavieh, said.

With over 150 different kinds of crafts produced in the country, Zavieh said Iran may be considered one of the richest countries in the field.

He stressed the emphasis laid on this segment of the economy, saying there are currently 13 governmental and private educational centers training craftsmen in various lines.

In his opening speech, Art University Chancellor, Dr. Zargar, stressed the contribution made by the industry in segmenting family ties where the place of work is the home, much like those of teacher and students in educational institutions.

ZAVIEH

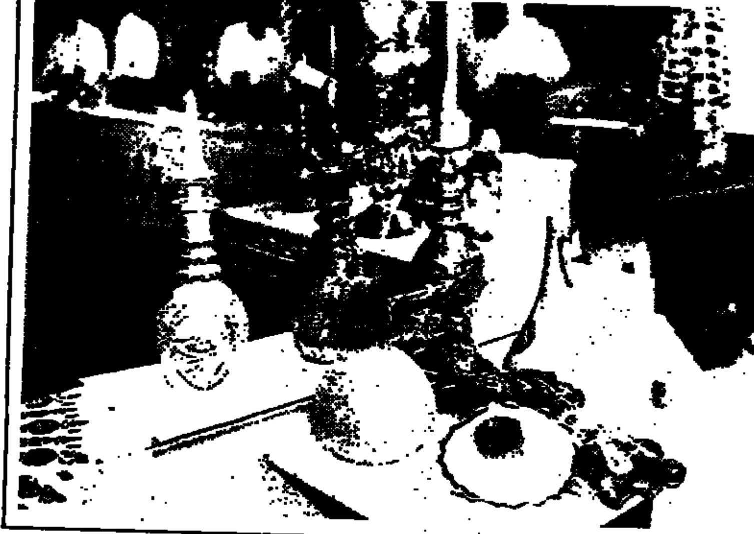
Next year a formal course will be incorporated in the curricula of some universities in Tehran, Yazd and Isfahan that will teach the mechanics of producing handmade carptes, it was learned from Dr. Hossein Yavari, a member of the board of directors of the Iranian Handicrafts Organization.

He also said that an increase of 97 percent in handicrafts sales was achieved in 1994-95, with a turnover of Rls 8.5 million from exports.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has chaired the Crafts Assembly for Asia and Oceania since 1993.

Iran is also a member of the International Handicrafts Council which aims to restore the image of

(Contd on Pg. 15)



"A Film a Day"

A Selection of Best Iranian Films 1993 — 1996

The Epic of Majnoun (Hamase-ye Majnoun)

The Crew:

Director: Jamal Shourjeh; **Producer:** Cinematographic Affairs Deputy Bureau of Mostazafan and Janbazan Foundation.; **Screenplay:** Hamid Kheiroddin. Jamal Shourjeh; **Cinematography:** Mohammad Dorrmanesh; **Editing:** Rouhollah Emami; **Music:** Mohammad Reza Aligholi; **Set designer:** Majid Mirfakh'khari; **Makeup:** Mostafa Kaamyaab; **Sound recordist**

(Contd on Pg. 15)



Seminar High
World Crafts

Euro 96 Soccer Outlook



UEFA EURO 96 England

Tehran Times Service

SHEFFIELD, England – An exhilarating display by Portugal earned only partial reward on Sunday as they drew 1-1 with defending Eurpean champions Denmark in the opening match of Group D at Hillsborough.

A 53rd minute header by Sa Pinto cancelled out a 21st minute goal from Danish striker Brian Laudrup, but no-one was left in any doubt which side are the more likely to make an impact in Euro 96.

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MANCHESTER, England, -- Favourites Germany made an impressive start to their Euro 96 campaign with a 2-0 defeat of the Czech Republic on Sunday but lost key defender Juergen Kohler for the rest of the tournament.

Two spectacular first-half goals from defender Christian Ziege and midfielder andy Moeller helped the 1990 World Cup winners to a confidence-boosting victory in Group C.

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LEEDS, England – Substitute Alfonso Perez saved Spain from defeat on their opening Euro 96 match with his first touch of the ball, touching home a 74th minute equaliser to give them a 1-1 draw against Bulgaria on Sunday.

Alfonso, who came on seconds before scoring, was just inside the six-yard box when he turned a shot from the left by Sergi Barjuan past goalkeeper Boris Mihailov from

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LEEDS, England -- Hristo Stoichkov, scorer of Bulgaria's goal in their 1-1 Euro 96 draw with Spain on Sunday, slammed the referee for three crucial decisions in the Group B clash.

"The man (on the field) who most erred was the referee," said the Parma forward, who put his side ahead with a 65th-minute penalty at Elland Road.

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MANCHESTER, England – Germany coach Berti Vogts hopes experienced defender Juergen Kohler has not played his last international despite his injury-enforced early exit from the European championship on Sunday.

Kohler, who has said that Euro 96 would be his last major tournament, went off in the first half of Germany's 2-0 Group C victory over the Czech Republic after tearing ligaments in his right ankle.

****

BIRMINGHAM, England – Injuries to key players could undermine the Netherlands's chances of beating 80-1 outsiders Scotland in their opening Euro 96 match at Villa Park on Monday.

Defender Frank de Boer is a non-starter for the Group A match after twisting an ankle in training and he could be joined on the sidelines by left winger Peter Hoestra and gifted striker Patrick Kluivert, who are struggling with knee injuries.

****

NEWCASTLE – France, a team of prodigious talent for whom a golden future has been predicted, will need to be wary of the unpredictable Romanians in their Euro 96 Group B match at St James's Park on Monday.

The French are unbeaten in 23 games, a run which stretches back to 1994 and includes nine successive victories on the final road to the European Championship.

* * * * * * * *

LONDON -- English Sunday newspapers were unusually united in their disappointment following the host nation's opening Euro 96 match against Switzerland.

The Independent on Sunday summed up Saturday's 1-1 draw with what most fans felt with the headline: 'Shearer Bliss, Sheer Agony', referring to Alan Shearer's first goal for England in 21 months and the late Swiss equaliser.

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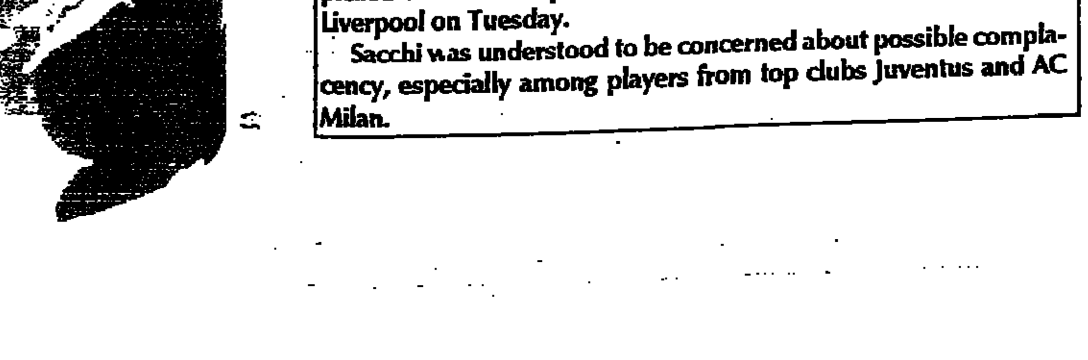
RUTLAND WATER, England -- Croatia's desire to create a new sense of identity in their war-torn homeland by winning Euro 96 will make them the most dangerous team in the tournament, according to captain Zvonimir Boban.

Boban chose some vivid imagery on Sunday to express how keen his players are to succeed in England, both as a team and as 000000000ls with a perfect chance to attract transfer interest from leading British clubs.

****

MANCHESTER, England – Italy coach Arrigo Sacchi warned his players on Sunday that only those who are fully motivated will be picked for the European Championship game against Russia in Liverpool on Tuesday.

Sacchi was understood to be concerned about possible complacency, especially among players from top clubs Juventus and AC Milan.



Favourites Germany Start in Style



MANCHESTER, United Kingdom (June 9): German players Markus Babbel (L) jubilates with teammate Fredi Bobic (R) as Czech player Radek Drulak leaves the pitch after their Group C match of the European Soccer Championships here.

(AFP PHOTO)

LONDON, (REUTER) – Favourites Germany began their Euro 96 campaign with a convincing 2-0 victory over the Czech Republic on Sunday while champions Denmark could only struggle to a draw against Portugal.

On a fast and passionate second day of the European championship in which two players were sent off and 23 received yellow cards, Germany also lost key defender Juergen Kohler through injury.

Kohler, who had said Euro 96 would be his last major tournament, limped off after tearing ligaments in his right ankle.

In the day's other action, Spain drew 1-1 with Bulgaria.

Germany, quoted at 7-2 favourites after Sunday's Group C win, scored two spectacular first-half goals through Christian Ziege and Andy Moeller.

In Group D, holders Denmark were forced to rely on their goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel to salvage a 1-1 draw against a spirited Portugal side.

A 21st minute goal from Danish striker Brian Laudrup was cancelled out by a 53rd-minute header by Sa Pinto and only Schmeichel's skill succeeded in denying Portugal a win.

Group B's seeded team, Spain, were saved from defeat by substitute Alfonso Perez who scored with his first touch of the ball in a fast and ill-tempered match which saw two red cards.

Perez glanced in a shot by Sergi Barjuan at a time when the Bulgarians had been reduced to 10 men.

Bulgaria had gone ahead after 65 minutes through a Hristo Stoichkov penalty after Emil Kostadinov was fouled.

The expulsions began with Bulgaria's Petar Hubchev -- the first man to be sent off in the finals for 12 years -- who brought down Jose Luis Caminero in the 72nd minute.

Four minutes later Spain's Juan Pizzi was ordered off for fouling Radostin Kishishev.

Jordan Silences Sonic Boom

SEATTLE, Washington, (AFP) -- One defeat away from becoming the winningest club to ever lose in the National Basketball Assosiation finals, the Seattle Supersonics are trying to remember what got them this far.

And forget how bad they have been in losing the first three games in the best-of-seven series to the Chicago Bulls, including Sunday's 108-86@defeat in game three here.

That will be difficult. They have to wait until Wednesday for game four and live with memories of how Chicago led 19-4 and 34-12.

The Sonics must ponder the fact that no club has ever recovered from a 3-0 deficit to win the title. Chicago could become the seventh club to sweep, matching Houston's title run against Orlando of last year.

The Sonics won 64 regular-season games, eight shy of Chicago's record-breaking total. They even beat the Bulls here at key arena. But that was without a title at stake.

Seattle took only 60 shots, an NBA finals record low. The prior mark of 66 was set three times, most recently by Houston in 1994. Solving Chicago's defense, especially two men on kemp, is a must for Seattle to win even once.

Hard Working Kafelnikov Enjoys Bumper Pay-Day

PARIS, (REUTER) – It was pay-day for the hardest working man in tennis on Sunday.

Yevgeny Kafelnikov, who has played more matches than any other player in each of the last two years, was working overtime again this weekend, and his extended shift earned him a pair of French Open grand slam titles and $840,000 in prize money.

On Saturday Kafelnikov teamed up with Czech Daniel Vacek to win the doubles. He was back on centre court on Sunday to beat former Wimbledon champion Michael Stich of Germany 7-6 7-5 7-6 and become the first Russian to win a singles Grand Slam event.

"Playing so many tournaments, so many matches really helps me because that's the way I'm able to keep my confidence at a very high level," said Kafelnikov, who played in 167 matches last year and 171 the year before.

"I took two weeks off once, then I was out of shape for the next three weeks. I became a totally different player."

But Kafelnikov will reward himself for becoming the first man since Australian Ken Rosewall in 1968 to claim both French Open titles with a few rare days of rest in his home town, the Black Sea resort of Sochi.

Young Iranian Karatekas Rank First

TEHRAN, (IRNA) – Iranian karatekas in the children and young adults categories won first place in an international karate championship in Johannesburg, South Africa, held June 6-9.

The Iranians bagged 11 gold, 12 silver and six bronze medals. U.S. athletes placed second with four gold, three silver and five bronze.

The South African team ranked third by bagging three gold, one silver and six bronze medals.

The 40-man Iranian team competed with rivals from 40 different countries during the contest.

Tonkov in the Pink

MILAN, (AFP) – Pavel Tonkov brought down the final curtain on the 79th tour of Italy on Sunday, ending nearly 4,000kms of sweated labour that started in Athens and finished in the Sempione Park here.

P. Tonkov completed his victory ride through the centre of Milan after breaking the willpower of world champion Abraham Olano of Spain, a victim of Saturday's mulerous ascent of the Mortirolo Pass.

Olano had only worn the leader's pink jersey for 24 hours when it was convincingly wrested back by its previous owner, Tonkov, who surged into the final climb up the Dolomites.

But if the hero was a 27-year-old Russian, other riders also left their mark on the race after three weeks in the saddle – Olano, Mario Cipollini, Gianni Bugno and Davide Rebellin all had their moments.

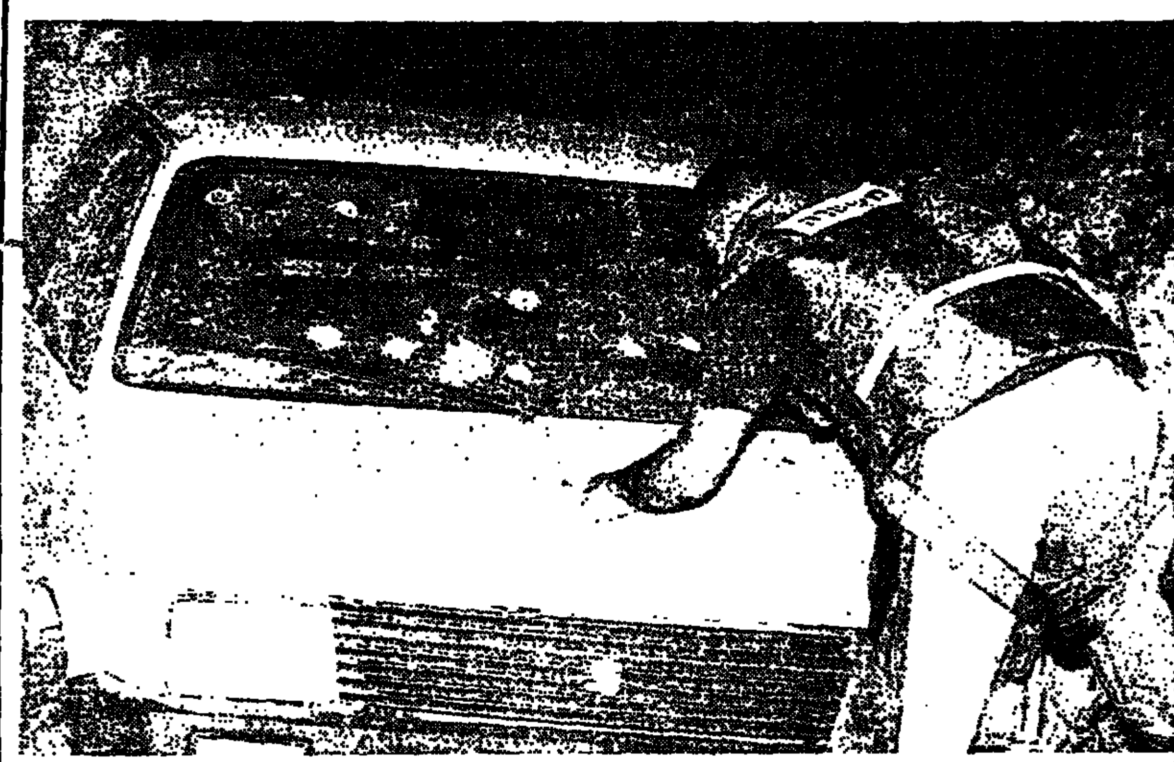


PARIS, France (June 9): Russian Yevgeny Kafelnikov waves the winner's cup after his final match of the French Open against German Michael Stich on center court at Roland Garros. Kafelnikov became the first Russian to win a Grand Slam singles crown at the French Open when he beat Stich 7-6 (7/4), 7-5, 7-6 (97/4). 22-year-old Kafelnikov won both the singles and men's doubles events. The last player to achieve that feat was Australian Ken Rosewall back in 1963.

(AFP PHOTO)

هكذا من الاصل

Palestinian Minister Warns of Rising Violence After Shooting



ZACHARYA, Israel (June 9): An Israeli policeman inspects a car in which two Israelis were killed when unknown gunmen opened fire with automatic weapons on an isolated road southwest of Bait-ul-Moqaddas. (AFP PHOTO)

GAZA CITY (AFP) — A senior Palestinian official warned Monday that the overnight slaying of two Israelis in an apparent attack by Palestinians may be only the start of an upsurge in violence if Israel's new government does not pursue the peace process.

"In the absence of any real progress in the peace process, we expect to see more violence," Freih Abu Middein said when asked about the shooting.

Unidentified gunmen opened fire with automatic weapons on an Israeli car in an isolated area southwest of Bait-ul-Moqaddas, killing a married couple from the Jewish settlement of Kyriat Arba near Al-Khalil.

Police said they suspected Palestinian activists although no one claimed responsibility for the shooting, the first deadly anti-Zionist attack since right-wing leader Benjamin Netanyahu was elected Israel's new prime minister last month.

"I expect there will be a new wave of violence in the region ... if Netanyahu and his government turn their backs on the (peace) agreements," Middein said.

Palestinian and Arab leaders have expressed alarm that the new government, if it adopts Netanyahu's hardline election platform as its policy guidelines, will freeze or turn back the peace process.

Caretaker Prime Minister Shimon Peres called an urgent meeting with his right-wing successor Benjamin Netanyahu on Monday after an anti-Zionist attacks by Hezbollah in Lebanon and suspected Palestinians outside Bait-ul-Moqaddas.

Officials said Peres and Netanyahu would meet at the Defense Ministry in Tel Aviv to discuss the "security situation" following the attacks.

After those talks Peres was to hold a meeting of his inner security Cabinet in Bait-ul-Moqaddas to discuss a response to the Lebanon attack, officials said.

Netanyahu is still engaged in negotiations to form a coalition government following his May 29 election victory over Peres and is expected to present his Cabinet when Israel's new Parliament convenes on Monday.

Grachev Expected Friday at NATO HQ

BRUSSELS (AFP) — Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev is expected at NATO headquarters here Friday when alliance ministers meet their counterparts from eastern Europe on enlargement, NATO said Monday.

Grachev's position is awaited with interest by alliance ministers, buoyed by the more concialitory stance expressed by Russia's Foreign Minister Yevgeni Primakov in talks in Berlin last week, at which Moscow appeared to drop its hitherto open opposition to any NATO expansion.

Primakov warned that Russia would not accept NATO apparatus on its border but said his country was ready to compromise with the alliance.

Friday's talks, which come two days before the first round of the Russian presidential election, will be preceded by a NATO defense ministers' meeting on Thursday which will discuss Bosnia.

NATO is leading a 60,000-strong peace Implementation Force (IFOR) in Bosnia.

Supreme Court Stops Ershad on TV Election Speech

DHAKA (AFP) — Bangladesh's supreme court stayed a lower court order Monday and effectively barred jailed former President Hussain Muhammad Ershad from giving a televised pre-poll campaign speech.

A full five-member bench stayed the order given by the high court to allow the former president to address the nation over state-run television and radio, until it deals with a government writ petition.

That effectively stopped Ershad's speech as campaigning is officially banned from midnight Monday before Wednesday's parliamentary elections.

The high court on Sunday had ordered authorities to record Ershad's speech for broadcasting through the national media.

But the supreme court on Monday accepted the government's writ petition for further hearings but did not set a date, apparently ending Ershad's bid to speak to the nation before elections.

The caretaker government of Muhammad Habibur Rahman allowed the chiefs of all political parties to give televised campaign speeches, but prevented Ershad from doing so on grounds that it did not fall within the jail code. Ershad heads the Jatiya Party.

Sultan Qaboos Visits Egypt

CAIRO (AFP) — Sultan Qaboos of Oman arrived in Cairo on Monday for talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak ahead of an Arab summit later this month, officials said.

The Sultan, who flew in from Saudi Arabia for a five-day visit, was met at the airport by Mubarak and the two leaders headed to the presidential palace.

Their talks were to focus on "the latest developments in the peace process and ways to revive Arab solidarity, as well as bilateral relations," the government daily *Al-Ahram* said.

In Jeddah, western Saudi Arabia, Sultan Qaboos met Sunday night with Saudi Crown Prince Abdallah ibn Abdel Aziz, who took part in talks in Damascus last week paving the way for the Arab summit.

Clinton Invites Mubarak for Talks

LAS VEGAS (Reuter) — President Bill Clinton called Egyptian President Hosni Mubarek on Sunday and invited him to Washington next month to discuss Middle East developments following the election of a new rightwing Israeli leader, White House spokesman Mike McCurry said.

McCurry told reporters that Clinton made the call while flying aboard Air Force One from Washington to Las Vegas, Nevada for a campaign appearance.

He said Clinton and Mubarak had discussed meetings among Arab leaders in Cairo this weekend.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

PRESIDENT....

The Optical Disk factory to be opened in Karaj city is among those projects. The factory, to meet the needs of the country's information system, can produce 5,500,000 compact disks annually. An amount of 7,307,488,740 rials and 4,940,826 dollars have been allocated to build up the factory.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

PARTICIPATION...

construction materials and machinery indicates that the U.S. embargo against Iran and its interference in our economy and commerce have totally failed, Commerce Minister Yahya Al Eshaq said here Monday.

Addressing the inauguration ceremony of the fair, he added, taking into account our rich mines and energy resources, we are determined to increase our value-added in this sector with the help of other countries.

Iran construction and mine companies can render valuable services to the African and Central Asian countries, he said.

Speaking at the ceremony, the general director of Munich exhibitions said, in the light of the second development plan, Iran attaches great importance to its mine and housing. This has prepared a suitable ground for foreign firms to invest in the sectors.

The amount of foreign investment should increase in Iran, he said, adding, the ongoing fare can provide a good opportunity for Iran housing and mine sectors.

Some 80 foreign firms, including those from Germany, Spain, England, Belgium, Switzerland, France, Finland, Canada, and the Netherlands as well as 250 domestic firms have participated in the fair.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

IRAN'S....

urged all regional countries to stage effective campaigns against Zionist conspiracies.

Meanwhile, Velayati stressed that the Islamic Republic attaches great importance to confronting Israeli aggression. He also reiterated Iran's support for the stances of Syria and other Islamic states.

They also called for close and continious cooperation among all Islamic countries.

Velayati, heading a delegation, arrived to Syria Sunday on a two-day official visit. He was carrying a message from President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani to his Syrian counterpart on latest regional developments and issues of mutual interest.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

HEZBOLLAH....

lah spokesman in Beirut told AFP.

"Our fighters claimed several victims within the enemy ranks," Akbar said without giving further details.

A security source confirmed the attack, but gave no indication of casualties, saying: "A Hezbollah unit fired a Sagger rocket on an Israeli position at Barasheet."

Five Israeli soldiers were killed and six others wounded in South Lebanon on Monday as Hezbollah activists ambushed their patrol, security sources said.

Meanwhile, Israeli artillery pounding suspected Hezbollah positions in South Lebanon with around 150 shells — killing an off-duty Lebanese Army sergeant and wounding a civilian, police said.

After the Hezbollah ambush on a foot patrol at 5 a.m. (0200 GMT) near Dabshe, which controls the central part of the Israeli-occupied "security zone," the Hezbollah activists pledged to step up attacks.

In a statement claiming the attack, the activists said they would "transform South Lebanon into a volcano to throw out the Israeli occupation" and its proxy South Lebanon Army (SLA) mercenaries.

Monday's ambush was part of "a settling of accounts for the massacres committed by the Israelis in April," a reference to Israel's offensive that killed more than 170 Lebanese, mostly civilians, the group said.

The Hezbollah activists ambushed the patrol and opened fire with automatic weapons and anti-tank rockets before pulling back, security sources said.

In Beirut, a Hezbollah spokesman described the "Israeli bombardments on civilian targets" as a "blatant violation of the April (1996) understanding," hinting that the Hezbollah group might resume its Katyusha rocket attacks on Israeli position.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

ULTRA....

collapsed last week.

"Welfare should be supported to form a minority government," said Bayram Meral, leader of the Turkish Confederation of Labor Unions.

"The Turkish people should see what (Welfare) will bring to the country and what it will take away. There is no reason to be afraid of Welfare."

Sakip Sabanci, one of Turkey's most powerful businessmen, agreed.

"If we believe in democracy, we have to test Welfare in government," said Sabanci.

Since being asked by the president last Friday to try to form a coalition, Welfare leader Necmettin Erbakan has sought to calm fears about his party by saying he would respect democracy fully if given the chance to rule.

Erbakan met with the leader of a small nationalist party Monday, first in a series of meetings to be held this week with all the leaders in Parliament. Erbakan hopes to convince one of the center-right parties to join a coalition.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

PRELIMINARY....

The accord called for federal forces to withdraw from Chechen villages that are currently surrounded by July 7 and for guerrillas to turn in their weapons from July 7 to August 7.

Guerrilla commander Aslan Maskhadov and Gen. Vyacheslav Tikhomirov, head of Russian forces in Chechnya, met in Nazran, a region neighboring Chechnya, for the talks on military issues.

Meanwhile, two senior Russian negotiators flew from Nazran to the Chechen capital Grozny for political talks with the Russian-backed Chechen government, the Interfax news agency said.

The main issue at those talks was expected to be Russian plans to hold local elections in Chechnya on June 16, the same day as the Russian presidential elections. The guerrillas oppose the timing of the vote and want it to take place only after Russian troops have left Chechnya.

On Sunday, the latest session of the talks ended without an accord, but a guerrilla spokesman said the two sides were in agreement on a Russian pullout and demilitarizing the war-torn republic.

Spokesman Movladi Udugov said the date of the elections was the main issue keeping the two sides from an accord.

"This is the most painful issue and it could cancel out all the others," said Udugov during a pause in the talks aimed at ending Moscow's 18-month war in Chechnya.

Udugov said the two sides had agreed to the demilitarization of Chechnya by August 30, including a complete pullout of Russian troops. The Russian side, however, did not confirm this and the talks ended for the day without a final agreement. Demilitarization would presumably mean that the guerrillas would lay down their arms, but Udugov would not go into detail.

There was no confirmation from the Russian delegation on the tentative agreement.

According to another report, two Russian soldiers were killed in the Chechen capital Grozny on Monday when their armoured vehicle came under attack, ITAR-TASS news agency said.

The agency did not give details. The attack came as the delegations of Russia and Chechen guerrillas tried to negotiate conditions for a peace accord at talks in the neighbouring region of Ingushetia.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

BAHRAIN....

Unable to settle the crisis which is totally a domestic one, the Bahraini officials are trying to externalize it. Observers opine that if Bahraini officials resotre the Parliament, the crisis will come to an end. But the officials are reluctant to restore the people's fundamental right.

WEATHER

The I.R. of Iran Meteorological Organization announced today's weather as follows:

Forecast for Tehran: Max. temp. 33°C, Min. temp. 19°C

Clear to partly cloudy with sind

Warmest Point:
Omidieh 44°C

Coldest Point:
Ardebil 4°C

Some cities of the world

Cities	Max. °C	Cities	Max. °C
Jedda	36	Vienna	–
Riyadh	41	Moscow	–
Istanbul	27	Madrid	29
Rome	27	Abu Dhabi	39
Athens	–	Karachi	–
London	22	New Delhi	–
Paris	30	Kuwait	–
Frankfurt	–		

Thousands Flee Fighting in Rural Liberia

MONROVIA (AFP) - Liberian factions have clashed for the past two weeks in western areas of the country forcing thousands of civilians to flee, according to witnesses arriving here Monday.

"There is no law and order. Everything is just chaos," said Morris Kiade, one of hundreds of refugees who arrived by canoe from Grand Cape Mount County, where fighting is continuing between the two wings of the ethnically-divided United Liberation Movement (ULIMO).

Some of the canoes reportedly capsized on the way to the capital. One witness, Boimu Fumbah, said up to 15 people from one canoe may have drowned.

"People are suffering from bullet wounds and there is nobody to care for them," Kiade told journalists at Monrovia's Banjor beach.

Residents in affected areas are "completely out of food and there is no medicine to treat the wounded and sick," said Kiade.

"Our people are dying in the bushes. We have never enjoyed peace since (the African Peacekeeping Force) ECOMOG withdrew from the county," he said.

The peacekeepers pulled out of Grand Cape Mount County last March after clashes with the ethnic Krahn wing of ULIMO-Krahn in Tubmanburg, in nearby Bomi County, left at least 20 ECOMOG troops dead.

The only road to the western region has since been closed to normal traffic and relief convoys.

Although a cease-fire has held in the capital itself since May 26, after almost two months of factional fighting, banditry and armed robbery are still common in many areas.

On Saturday a group of unidentified fighters armed with machetes raided the government-run John Kennedy Memorial Hospital in the eastern Sinkor district, and threatened health workers.

Although no one was hurt in the incident, it was the third such attack in two months, according to hospital administrator Henry Marvuie.



TEHRAN (June 9): On the occasion of the Italian National Day, a ceremony was held here in the residence of Italian Ambassador to Tehran Ludovico Ortona (R). Attending at the ceremony was Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister in charge of Euro-American Affairs, Mahmoud Vaezi (L).

Four Killed in Three Bomb Blasts in Pakistan

LAHORE, Pakistan (AFP) — At least four people were killed and dozens injured Monday, when three bombs exploded in the Punjab city of Gujranwala Monday, police said.

A bomb ripped through a passenger bus in the industrial city of Gujranawala, killing four people, while two shops were destroyed when two more bombs exploded in nearby Kamoke Bazaar, police said. At least 25 people were injured in the bazaar blasts.

Police said the bus, carrying about 30 people, was about to reach Gujranwala, 80 kilometers (50 miles) north of Lahore when the bomb went of.

The blast is the third aboard a passenger bus in Punjab since late April.

At least 52 people were killed when a bomb exploded in a bus in Bhai Phero, near Lahore on April 28.

Bulgarian Parliament Approves Government Reshuffle

SOFIA (AFP) — The Bulgarian Parliament on Monday approved a government reshuffle in which three ministers were replaced and a new ministry was set up, officials announced.

Industry Minister Kliment Vuchev, blamed for the slow progress in privatization, was replaced by Lubomir Dachev, the vice minister of education, science and technology.

Agriculture Minister Svetoslav Chivarov, blamed for an unprecedented bread shortage, was replaced by Krastio Trenadfilov, head of the Regional Council in the northwest region of Montana. Chivarov, however, remains in his post as deputy prime minister.

Culture Minister Georgy Kostov was replaced by art critic Ivan Marazov.

The government's Energy Committee was transformed into the Ministry of Energy headed by Rumen Ovcharov, the committee's first vice president.

The reshuffle was adopted by a vote of 121 in favor, two against and three abstentions.

Tehran to Hold 6th Tourism Fair End of July

SHAHR-E KORD, Charmahal-Bakhtiari Province (IRNA) — The Sixth Iran Tourism Exhibition is to be held from July 30 to August 8 in Tehran, Deputy Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance Hussein Taheri announced here Monday.

He added that during the exhibition, 25 provinces and some 300 tourism organizations and foundations will put on display various tourist attractions of the country.

Introducing Iran's natural, historical, Islamic and cultural sites, promoting tourism in Iran, familiarizing the Iranian people with the tourism industry and planning according to the Second Five-Year Development Plan, are among the objectives for holding the tourism exhibitions, Taheri added.

(Contd from Pg. 2)

IRAN.....

claim on television that they had connections with Iran.

He said that during his recent visit to Manama, he was given two files by Bahraini officials, the first containing reports of the Islamic Republic of Iran broadcasting (Iranian radio and television) concerning developments in this tiny Persian Gulf state.

Maleki said he explained to Bahraini authorities that the reports were from Western sources and news agencies.

The second file consisted of interviews conducted by the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran (Iranian radio) with some members of the Bahraini opposition.

In this connection, it was made clear to Bahraini officials that the interviews were with persons who lived in Britain and who have been interviewed by other world media, including those in Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

(Contd from Pg. 4)

A FILM....

Behrouz Shahamat; Special effects: Mohammad Reza Sharafoddin; Production Manager: Habibollah Kaschsaaz;



SHOURJEH

Cast: Jahanbakhsh Soltani, Ja'far Dehghan, Ali Derakhshi. *(35 mm, Color, 100 minutes)*

Director's Short Biography:

Born in Zanjan in 1954, Jamal Shourjeh graduated in cinema from the Art University Complex. He started a professional filmmaking career and has so far directed the following films: *The Crack* (1988), *The 10th Night* (1989), *Karkouk Operation* (1990), *The Razor's Edge* (1992) and *The Epic of Majnoun* (1994).

Synopsis:

Shortly after the occupation of the town of Mehran, the then Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, the late Imam Khomeini (R.A) issues an order that "Mehran must be liberated."

A psychological war is soon launched in this regard with the objection of distracting the enemy's attention first and liberating Mehran later on in a surprise attack.

Haj Ahmad Lotfi, the commander in charge of this secret mission, starts a series of distracting operations which causes many unanswerable questions and a lot of incovenience for the unit commander and his combatants.

The ensuing conflict and tension between Haj Ahmad and the unit commander, his deputy in this secret mission, endangers the mission itself.

The climax of the story is when one of Haj Ahmad's distracting operations puts the entire unit in a very dangerous and weak position in a close encounter with the heavily armed, angry enemy...

(Contd from Pg. 4)

SEMINAR....

handicrafts as one of the most vital aspects of human's endeavor. It joined the council in 1969.

The First International Handicrafts Congress, participated in by executive officials, professors, artists and craftsmen from more than 40 countries around the world was held in New York on June 10, 1964.

Today the World Council of Crafts has 100 members.

Iran Humbles Nepal 8-0

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — Iran soccer team humbled Nepalese side 8-0 here yesterday in the first round of the Group Five preliminary games for the Asia Soccer Championship.

Ali Daei scored in the 12th, 35th, 80th and 86th minutes, added by Karim Baqeri's two other in 9th (penalty) and 57th and Mohsen Garousi in 49th minutes. Alireza Hakimzadeh had found the net in the 71st minute.

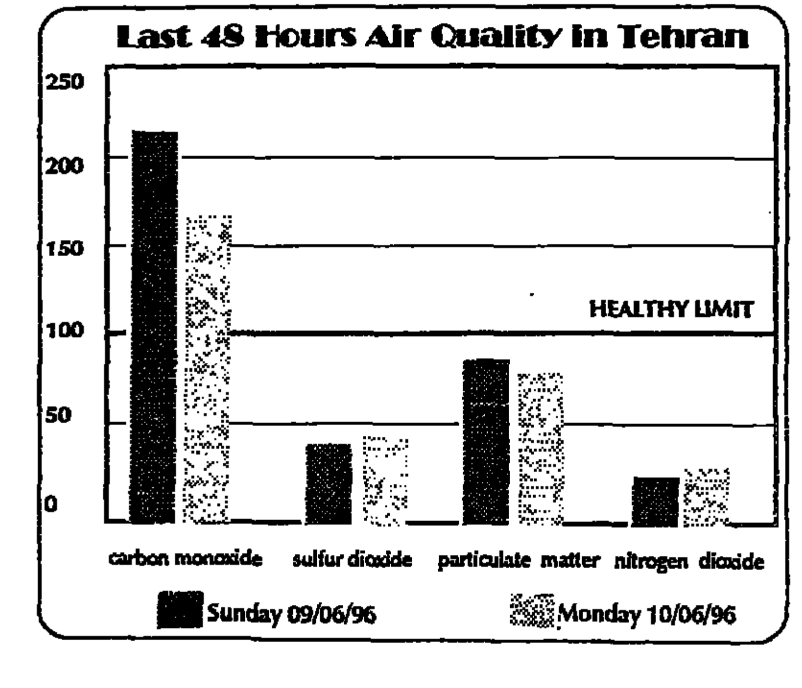
Some 60,000 fans watched the match at the 100,000-seat Azadi Stadium.

Before the Iran-Napal match Oman defeated Sri Lanka 3-0. The Omanese side goals were scored in 30th, 32nd, and 69th minutes.

Ali Daei was awarded a prize, being the best player of the game.



Ali Daei was awarded a prize, being the best player of the game.



TEHRAN TIMES

international news

PAGE 16

JUNE 11, 1996

Peregrine Falcon Born in Nuclear Power Station

BRUSSELS (AFP) — A nuclear power station was the unlikely birthplace of the first peregrine falcon to be seen in southern Belgium since the 1960s, a spokesman for a Belgian birds of prey association said Sunday.

The creature, named Willy — although it will have to be renamed Wilhelmina after it was found to be a female — was born in May at the Doel power station in northern Belgium, and was tagged on Sunday.

Bag Boy Bad Boy, Cops Say

MOSCOW (AP) — A gang of thieves which included a boy in a bag tried to rob a check room at a clothes market in Perm but were foiled when the child was discovered.

The ITAR-TASS news agency said Sunday the entire gang was arrested when they showed up to collect the boy the next morning.

It said the plot unraveled after a shopkeeper saw something moving inside a bag, opened it and found the boy. The child was numb from his confinement, but refused to squeal, the report said.

Multi-Party Talks Open, Sinn Fein Shut Out of Talks

BELFAST (AFP) — British Prime Minister John Major opened historic multi-party talks on the future of Northern Ireland on Monday afternoon.

The political wing of the IRA, Sinn Fein, was excluded from the talks because IRA paramilitaries had refused to call a cease-fire.

"Sinn Fein are not at today's talks," said a terse five-line joint statement from the British and Irish governments, "because there has been no restoration of the August 1994 cease-fire.

"Restoration of ministerial dialogue with Sinn Fein ... requires the unequivocal restoration of the cease-fire."

"I feel cheated," said Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams. "We came here as peace-makers."

Adams' deputy, Martin McGuinness, and a few Sinn Fein delegates were briefly admitted to the building, ostensibly to meet with other delegates who wanted to see them, but were ejected minutes later after being read the statement.

Delegates of the IRA political wing Sinn Fein were allowed access to the building but not the table where the talks on Northern Ireland began.

Britain to Continue EU Non-Cooperation

LONDON (AFP) — Britain will continue with its policy of obstructing European Union business, despite a conciliatory move by Foreign Secretary Malcom Rifkind aimed at defusing the beef war, sources at the prime minister's office said Monday.

"The policy of non-cooperation continues", said sources at Downing Street. They added: "Where there are individual cases that ministers wish to put forward to be considered as an exemption, they will do so".

Rifkind earlier Monday in Luxembourg announced two new exceptions from the British policy of vetoing every EU decision requiring unanimity.

In what he described as a "gesture of good will," Rifkind said he would not now prevent the ministers giving the green light for talks with Algeria on a new trade and cooperation agreement or approving the release of EU funds to help monitor elections in Bosnia this summer.

Britain last week had told its EU partners it would allow the ministers to approve a new association agreement between the EU and Slovenia.

London refuses to end the policy of non-cooperation until agreement is reached on a framework for lifting the EU's worldwide ban on British beef, imposed because of fears of a link between "mad cow" disease and a human brain condition.

Major Earthquake Near Aleutian Islands

TOKYO (AFP) — A major earthquake measuring 7.7 on the Richter scale shook an area around the Aleutian Islands, south of Alaska in the Bering Sea, on Monday, the Japanese Meteorological Agency said.

A spokesman said the quake occurred at 0409 GMT adding that the agency was considering a tidal wave warning for Japan.

The epicentre of the quake was near the island of Amchitka, the agency said.

Yeltsin Wants First-Round Victory



KAZAN, Russian Federation (June 9): Russian President Boris Yeltsin swings a stick in order to break a plate on the ground during the Tatar national festival "Sabantui" in Kazan. (AFP PHOTO)

MOSCOW (AP) — President Boris Yeltsin claimed Sunday he's about to achieve something the polls say is impossible: A first-round victory in next week's presidential election.

Most reputable polls say a third or so of the voters back Yeltsin and about a quarter are for his main rival, communist leader Gennady Zyuganov.

But in an interview aired Sunday on independent NTV, Yeltsin said his "intuition" tells him he'll get the 50 percent-plus one he needs on June 16 to avoid a run-off.

What Yeltsin calls intuition, the communists are already branding election fraud, and they have promised a campaign of protests. The president's team, in turn, says the communists are actually cooking up riots and a coup.

In the television interview, Yeltsin claimed it would be "impossible" to rig the election. He also warned that he wouldn't allow any "disorder."

He said the communists might try to cause trouble, but "I have faith in the common sense of people. I don't think they'll take to the streets."

Another 54 Killed in Troubled KwaZulu-Natal Province

DURBAN, South Africa (AFP) — Fifty-four people were killed over the weekend in the troubled KwaZulu-Natal Province, police said Monday, as rival parties stepped up campaigning for key local government elections later this month.

Among the dead were three men whose bodies were found with gunshot wounds in a river near Empangeni in the north of the province, police said in a statement issued here.

Another man was killed when gunmen opened fire on a group of church mission residents in Ezakheni in the west of the province, police said.

Police did not say how many of the latest deaths were related to an ongoing undeclared civil war between supporters of President Nelson Mandela's ruling African National Congress (ANC) and the Zulu-Nationalist Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP).

The conflict has claimed nearly 20,000 lives since 1985, and more than 1,800 so far this year.

Court Justice Shot in Karachi

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP) — Two gunmen perched on a speeding motorcycle shot and killed an influential former court judge and his son in the southern port city of Karachi on Monday, police said.

Retired Justice Nizam Ahmed was cut down in a hail of gunfire in front of his house in an upper middle-class neighborhood in Karachi's eastern district, a' police spokesman said.

His son, Nadeem, 28, who had just returned to Pakistan from Britain to open a law practice with his father, died while being taken to hospital.

Police did not believe the murders were linked to the ethnic violence that has wracked Karachi, the capital of Pakistan's southern Sind Province.

Basque Leader Released on Bail

MADRID (AFP) — A Spanish judge ordered Monday the release on bail of a top Basque leader who had been held for almost four months for suspicion of involvement with an armed group, judicial sources said.

Anti-terrorist Judge Baltasar Garzon ordered the release of Jon Idigoras, spokesman for Herri Batasuna, the political wing of the Basque Separatist Organization ETA, after the party posted bail, sources said.

Idigoras, who is also a deputy in the Spanish Parliament for Herri Batasuna, was arrested on February 21 for questioning over an ETA propaganda video his party used at campaign rallies.

India's New Government Faces Acid Test in Parliament

NEW DELHI (AFP) — India's new government faces its first survival test in Parliament Tuesday (today) with Hindu Nationalists determined to play up a corruption scandal plaguing the coalition's main backer.

The ruling United Front is confident of winning the confidence vote, but the pro-Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has threatened to go on the offensive in the Lok Sabha, the lower house where Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda lacks majority support.

Front officials say Deve Gowda, 63, is embarassed by a bribery scandal involving former Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao's Congress (I) party which is keeping the 10-day-old United Front government in office.

The Congress, which was voted out in the April-May ballot, has 136 MPs in the 545-seat Lok Sabha, where the 13-party United Front coalition took office June 1 with just 180 deputies after Hindu Nationalists quit after failing to win majority support.

On Sunday, federal detectives said they would question Rao's son over allegations that he accepted kickbacks from a Turkish firm in a urea deal which went sour a year ago.

The allegations, denied by Rao's son, has seriously embarassed the former premier, whose five-year reign from 1991 has been marred by a string of bribery scandals involving several ministers.

On Monday, the powerful Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M), a key member of the United Front, said it would turn up the heat on Rao.

"We are not bothered how Deve Gowda survives. That is his problem," a CPI-M leader said. "We will not allow the government to go slow on corruption charges against anyone, including Rao."

"English Idioms and Their Farsi Equivalents" on Page 4 every Wednesday

Hydrofoil With 100 People Aboard Capsizes

ROME (AFP) — Four people died and seven were injured, two of them seriously, Monday after a hydrofoil ferrying 162 passengers to Naples capsized as it left the island of Ischia, the Interior Ministry said.

Rescue workers recovered the bodies of four elderly people, three women — including two sisters — and a woman.

The emergency services said the vessel overturned after hitting a rock in early-morning fog around 8:30 a.m. (0630 GMT).

However most of the passengers managed to jump into the sea. some were rescued by fishing boats while others swam 200 meters to shore.

The hydrofoil Procida had left Casamicciola on Ischia at 7:20 a.m. (0720 GMT) with 95 people aboard, but 66 additional passengers boarded during a stopover at the island of Procida.

Most of the passengers were residents of either Ischia or Procida on their way to work in Naples.

Officials said many of them managed to put on their life jackets before the boat overturned. They said although the fog hampered rescue operations, the proximity of the port enabled many boats to quickly rush to the scene to recover the passengers.

56 Million Bangladeshis Prepare to Vote

DHAKA (AFP) — More than 56 million Bangladeshis will vote Wednesday in what has been billed as the most crucial general election since the fragile democracy's independence in 1971.

"If the election goes through peacefully and the political leadership accepts the outcome it will help Bangladesh's democratic process ... democracy is strengthened by trial and error," said one Western diplomat.

Bangladesh has seen numerous military coups and political upheavals since its bloody birth and was shaken again by a failed army rebellion three weeks ago.

Fears linger of post-poll violence, although caretaker Government Chief Muhammad Habibur Rahman has said his administration has taken all possible measures to counter any unrest.

Political analysts base their fear of continued unrest on the intractable conflict between the two main contenders for power — former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and Sheikh Hasina Wajed of the Awami League.

Except for the fifth Parliament elected in 1991, all other Bangladeshi parliaments have been prematurely disbanded either because of military or political upheaval.

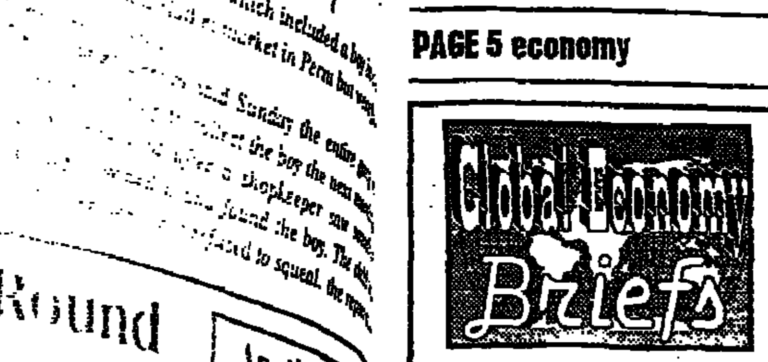
The fate of the seventh administration is also a precarious one given predictions of a hung Parliament.

Campaigning was set to reach its peak Monday. The Election Commission has decreed that all electioneering must stop at midnight ahead of the polls.

"This is the most articulate election in our history ... people are very much involved," said Atiur Rahman, a leading economist and political observer.

He said people were now much more politically conscious.

Voting will start at 8:00 a.m. (0200 GMT) and continue for eight hours, but repolling will be held at a later date if voting has to be stopped either because of violence or bad weather.



BRUSSELS - European Union foreign ministers would try on Monday to draft the agenda for this month's EU summit in Florence under the shadow of Britain's campaign of disruption.

ABU DHABI - An appeals court ordered stiffer fines against eight former executives of the failed Bank of Credit and Commerce International, but waived financial penalties against two others.

HONG KONG - Hong Kong-based Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd. chairman Peter Sutch said Monday shareholders had "unanimously approved" the issue of $572.9 million new shares, or 20 percent of the company's existing share capital, to China-run Citic Pacific Ltd.

MOSCOW - Despite backing from the West and a flurry of preelection largesse, President Boris Yeltsin is struggling to convince Russia's 105 million voters that his sweeping market reforms are working.

TOKYO - Foreign direct investment by Japan rose 15.8 percent from a year earlier to 4,956.8 billion yen ($46.8 billion) in the year to March, the Finance Ministry said Monday.

SEOUL - North Korea received a $130- million insurance payout this year from Western insurance firms for damage to its 1994 harvest, a Foreign Ministry official said on Monday.

BEIJING - China on Monday said it would tackle with drainage systems and fortifications the massive pollution and soil erosion it expects from the three Gorges project on the Yangtze River.

TOKYO - A slowdown in Japan's economy has not stopped Pachinko enthusiasts from plugging money into their habits and pushing turnover from the lucrative machines higher than the gross domestic products of Taiwan or India.

TAIPEI - Share prices in Taiwan finished 0.6 percent lower Monday amid cautious sentiment among investors, dampened by a weakening financial sector.

TOKYO - Japan posted a deficit on goods and services for the first time in three months in April as the current account surplus contracted on rising imports and a widening shortfall on services, the Finance Ministry said Monday.

KATHMANDU - A government-appointed panel probing fake letters of credit has named 175 business houses and commercial banks allegedly involved in one of Nepal's biggest financial scandals, officials said.

BASLE - Inflation is subdued and economic growth has held up relatively well, but there is still a conspicuous absence of a "feel-good" factor in most industrial countries, the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) said on Monday.

PARIS - France's welfare system deficit is expected to widen to more than 48 billion francs ($9.6 billion) this year, almost three times the target set by Prime Minister Alain Juppe, French radio reported.

Asia's Airport-Building Frenzy Not Enough to Meet Demand

SINGAPORE (AFP) — Vast tracts of land are being bulldozed and seas pushed back as Asian countries build enormous new airports but much more needs to be done to meet the soaring demands of global travel in the 21st century.

With spending on 16 current Asian airport projects now exceeding $50 billion, experts who met recently in Singapore said hundreds of billions of dollars more may be needed to prevent jammed runways and congested terminals.

The region is forecast to account for 400 million passengers yearly or half the global total by 2010, from 122 million passengers or a third of world traffic in 1993.

The introduction of a new generation of huge aircraft called "Super Jumbos", perhaps within five years, also requires new or radically updated facilities.

"Despite the massive level of airport construction work, there is a grave danger that it will not be sufficient," said Thomas Windmuller, assistant director of the Air Transport Action Group (ATAG), a global industry alliance.

ATAG estimates that Asia-Pacific nations would have to spend $200 billion on airport projects by 2010 — but Windmuller said other studies put the bill at nearly $400 billion by 2005.

He warned that failure to improve aviation infrastructure could throttle economic growth and affect living standards of future generations.

By the end of this year, nearly half the existing international airports in the region would be unable to cope with demand at peak hours, he said.

Air space congestion caused by crowded airports is already costing airlines $100 million annually on South East Asia-Europe links alone, said Pierre Jeanniot, director-general of the International Air Transport Association.

The world's most expensive airport projects are already found in the region, topped by Hong Kong's $20 billion Chek Lap Kok project.

Japan's new Kansai Airport built on reclaimed land off Osaka cost 15 billion dollars. a second runway there would cost at least one billion dollars more than the airport itself due to spiralling costs of deep-water reclamation, Windmuller said.

A third airport serving Tokyo could cost 23 to 35 billion dollars, he said.

In China, some 20 new international airports are to open over the next 10 years. More than 40 other Chinese airports are to be upgraded over the next five years at a cost of at least five billion dollars.

New international airports are also under construction or being planned in Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok, Seoul, Sydney and Bombay.

Major upgrading and expansion works are underway or on the drawing boards in other Indian cities, as well as in Jakarta, Manila, Singapore, Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City and Vientiane.

Apart from airports, Asia must also upgrade roads and railways to handle heavier passenger and cargo traffic, an issue often neglected by planners.

Another looming problem is the coming of the "Super Jumbos" with an 800-seat airliner already envisaged.

Models capable of ferrying 500-600 passengers are now under development by Boeing Co. of the United States and its European rival Airbus Industrie.

A stretch model of the venerable Boeing B747, the B747-600, could be in service within five years.

Jean-Marie Chevallier, vice-president of French Consultants Aeroports de Paris, said Super Jumbos "will require either building new terminals or radically updating existing terminals."

Fong Kok Wai, engineering director of the civil aviation authority of Singapore, said Tarmacs would have to be strengthened, and facilities like air bridges, holding rooms and baggage handling equipment improved.

Airport emergency services would also have to be reinforced to cope with the Super Jumbos, which Fong said could be regarded as large fuel tankers capable of "wreaking greater Havoc" in a disaster than current airliners.



Rhine-Main airport in Frankfurt, Federal Republic of Germany, the most important international airport in continental Europe, is 50 years old. In 1936 it handled 58,000 passengers and 80 tons of freight. Lastest figures are 20 million passengers and over 800,000 tons of air cargo per year.

(ARCHIVE PHOTO)

Future Events

Wednesday, June 12

WASHINGTON - (Tentative) Annual European Union-U.S. summit scheduled to be held. Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi and European Commission President Jacques Santer, attend on behalf of the EU, President Bill Clinton for U.S.

DHAKA - Bangladesh parliamentary elections.

LONDON - Royal Institute of International Affairs lecture "Current Developments in the Ukraine" by Leonid Kravchuk, former Ukraine president.

BRUSSELS - Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) holds conference on "Forests for Life '96" 0700 GMT.

RABAT - Argentine President Carlos Menem visits (to June 15).

ISTANBUL - Romanian President Ion Iliescu expected to deliver speech at UN Conference on Human Settlements. He is due to meet Turkish President Suleyman Demirel while in Istanbul.

GENEVA - Ministers attending the annual conference of the International Labor Organization hold a special meeting on Child Labor.

RABAT - Health workers on 48-hour strike.

WASHINGTON - Irish President Mary Robinson visits as a guest of President Clinton (to June 15).

SINGAPORE - Teddy Bears' Picnic Media Conference, with 10 world renowned bearologists, an American bear dressing contest, etc. 0230 GMT.

Pakistan May Give India MFN Status

ISLAMABAD (Reuter) — Pakistan's Commerce Minister Ahmed Mukhtar said on Saturday its archrival India could be given most-favored-nation (MFN) status in the next few months.

He told reporters at a seminar in Islamabad that Pakistan had committed itself in principle to granting India MFN status when it signed the World Trade Organization agreement.

But it was still studying the likely practical impact of opening trade with its giant neighbor. "The report is not yet finalized," he said, adding that it could be ready by August.

"We are carrying out studies in different sectors, the engineering sector, the agriculture sector, and then we have narrowed the sectors in which we play a very major role and once the report comes back on these studies then we will be able to finally decide granting of this status," Mukhtar added.

India granted MFN status to Pakistan in 1993, thereby promising to offer it the maximum tariff concessions which it already grants to other countries.

Mukhtar, who favors giving MFN status to India, said the two countries would have to resolve issues of non-tariff barriers, quota restrictions and tariff reductions before Islamabad took a final decision.

"I had told the former Commerce Minister of India that if you have to do business with Pakistan you will have to open up your borders. Are the Indians willing to do that?" he asked.

Currently almost all trade between the two countries moves through third countries, making it costly and inefficient.

Mukhtar dismissed critics in Pakistan who fear that open trade relations with India would compromise Islamabad's advocacy of self-determination for Indian-held Kashmir.

OPEC-Iraq Deal Lays Up Trouble in Store

VIENNA (Reuter) — A new OPEC quota pact to accommodate revived Iraqi exports with the minimum of fuss met initial approval from oil markets but the cartel will face bruising negotiations when it next meets in November.

A 100th conference of OPEC (Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries) just held in Vienna sidestepped the thorny issues of a flawed quota system, simply freezing volume limits for 10 other members to help Iraq's return.

With a sigh of relief that a fractious cartel had reached an accord at all, without a furious public row, the market ticked prices higher a few cents, to just above $18 a barrel.

But the Saudi-backed plan dismissed claims by smaller sellers keen to raise output quotas to match levels of oil production which have already lifted OPEC far in excess of its new 25.03 million barrel per day (bpd) ceiling.

Cash-pinched populous third world producers like Venezuela, Nigeria and Algeria, flouting quotas and pumping to capacity, are hardly likely to consider returning to allocations they deem unfair and inadequate.

OPEC heavyweight Saudi Arabia seems resigned to the fact that only it and Persian Gulf neighbors Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates now are operating any supply restraint.

Having stifled the rumblings among its smaller output colleagues for a radical revision of quotas Saudi spared oil markets the unnerving spectacle of a fullscale quotas wrangle at a time when the first Iraqi oil exports for six years loom.

Iraq's imminent return to world markets was handled adroitly by not assigning a formal quota and leaving Baghdad to produce under limits set by the United Nations.

OPEC will hope that rising world demand for oil and the need to replenish depleted crude stocks after a cold U.S. winter will mop up in the incremental Iraqi barrels.

But the extra crude, expected at some 800,000 bpd, will hit markets at a time of slack demand in the late summer taking overall OPEC volumes in sight of 27 million bpd.

"OPEC appears to have reached a new production floor of 26 million (without Iraq)" veteran OPEC watcher Mehdi Varzi said.

That may send world oil stocks rising by a sharp three million bpd in the third quarter of the year, according to International Energy Agency (IEA) estimates.

Even if oil prices go into a slide before the November conference, the camp within OPEC led by Algeria may still press hard to shift quota distribution in their favor.

Smouldering resentment among those member countries at last week's OPEC talks was enough to send shivers through the oil markets until it became clear the Saudi line was not in danger.

Saudi Arabia remains key.

Oil Minister Ali bin Ibrahim al-Nuaimi said afterwards that the agreement had secured the short-term future of the cartel.

Oil prices would suffer a huge hit if the kingdom were to decide any time soon not to hold back on its two million bpd of spare capacity.

Other OPEC members, having embraced foreign oil company investment in recent years, are now steadily losing the ability to impose OPEC-mandated curbs on their production.

"At the end of the day, those countries open to foreign participation stopped playing OPEC's game a long time ago. They have no real control over production levels now," says consultant Vahan Zanoyan of Washington's petroleum finance.

While Saudi Arabia continues to shut in a portion of its huge capacity OPEC keeps some kind of grip on world oil market fundamentals.



TV Programs

Tuesday Evening, June 11

National Network, Channel 1:

13:07 Focus on Family
14:00 News
14:30 Focus on Family
15:00 Sport Program
16:00 Kids Corner
16:30 News
17:00 Children Program
18:00 Interlude
18:15 Productivity
18:30 Spotlight on Salt Desert
19:00 News
19:15 Knowledge of the Life
19:45 Privatization
20:15 Review of Press Major Stories
20:44 Call to Prayer (Azan)
20:48 Religious Program
21:00 News
21:30 Week of the Construction Jihad
21:40 Religious Program
21:45 Political Program
22:20 Commercials
22:30 Foreign TV Series
23:15 Explaining the Arafah Prayer
23:30 European Nations' Cup

National Network, Channel 2:

13:08 Religious Program
13:15 Interlude
13:30 Religious Speech
14:00 Foreign TV Series
14:45 Educational Program
15:00 Mathematics
15:30 Advances Arabic
16:00 Preuniversity Program
17:00 Focus on Living (teaching requirements for life)
18:00 Children's Program
19:00 Ashura Culture
19:30 Scientific Report
20:00 Religious Program
20:30 Cultural, Scientific News
20:44 Call to Prayer (Azan)
20:48 Interlude
21:00 Feature Movie
21:30 News
21:45 Notes of Night
23:00 Discussion About the West
23:45 Weekly Round Table

National Network, Channel 3:

16:00 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations from the Holy Qoran
16:15 The Tops
16:30 The Youth (in Lorestan)
17:00 Religious Program
17:30 Sports Program
18:15 Youth Debate
19:00 For Tomorrow
19:30 The New You Asked for It
19:45 Sports News
20:00 Special Program on Imam Zein al-Aabedin (AS)
20:44 Call to Prayer (Azan)
20:48 Sports Roundup
22:45 News (in English)

National Network, Tehran Channel:

17:00 Local Information
18:00 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations from the Holy Qoran
18:15 Visiting
18:30 Tehran News
18:45 Report on Tehran
19:00 Until Tomorrow
19:30 You and Advisor
19:45 Medical Science
20:00 Feature Movie
20:15 Song
20:44 Call to Prayer (Azan)
20:48 Local Economy
21:00 Report on Tehran Districts
21:15 Feature Movie
21:30 Face to Face
22:00 News
22:15 Report on Tehran
22:30 Digest
23:00 European Nations' Cup

Wednesday Morning, June 12

National Network, Channel 1:

06:00 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations from the Holy Qoran
06:15 Good Morning Iran
09:10 Children's Program
10:10 Foreign TV Series
11:00 Knowledge of the Life
11:30 Privatization
12:00 Report on Kerman Mosques
13:04 Call to Prayer (Azan)National Network, Channel 2:

National Network, Channel 2:

06:00 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations from the Holy Qoran
06:15 Children's Program
06:45 (To be announced)
07:30 Weekly Talks
08:00 Scientific Report
08:30 Mathematics
09:00 Advanced Arabic
09:30 Scientific Program for Children
09:45 Basis of Science
10:00 Educational Program
10:15 Kids Corner
11:00 Focus on Living (teaching requirements for life)
12:00 TV Programs Announcement
12:15 Interlude
12:30 Religious Program
13:04 Call to Prayer (Azan)

National Network, Channel 3:

07:30 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations from the Holy Qoran
07:45 Sports Exercises
09:15 The Tops
09:30 Vanguard
10:00 The Youth (in Kordestan)
10:30 Interlude
10:45 The New You Asked for It
11:00 Special Program on Imam Zein al-Aabedin (AS)

Fear Strikes Tobacco Country: The Farmers

HIDDENITE, North Carolina (AFP) – Carmen and Tammy Johnson began following their mother and father into the tobacco fields about the time they learned to walk. They know how the plant is grown, cut and sold.

And they know no crop brings in more money.

But the two young women also know there is a cloud of uncertainty hanging over the tobacco industry, and are not at all sure — in fact they have real doubts — they will be following their parents into tobacco farming.

"You don't know where tobacco's going," Carmen, 24, said in a recent interview outside her greenhouse, bursting with the flowers that she considers a safer investment. "Everybody's wanting to stop smoking. So it doesn't look too good."

The Johnsons, who farm 10 hectares (25 acres) of tobacco in the rolling foothills of North Carolina, are not alone.

In tobacco-growing regions all over the country, farmers fear their "golden weed" will go the way of the horse-drawn buggy — and with it a rich agricultural heritage dating back to the colonization of America.

Every day, it seems, there is a new front in the war on tobacco — lawsuits, government regulations, anti-smoking laws. And there is the matter of cheaper foreign tobacco.

Brazil, and then Zimbabwe, recently surpassed the United States as the world's top tobacco exporter, according to the Tobacco Manufacturers Association.

"It's like going to work every day and hearing rumors that they're going to cut your job or your department, and you're going to be the last one to hear about it," said Johnny Pope, 35, a fourth generation tobacco farmer who plants about 18 hectares (45 acres) per year alongside grains and produce.

"I think we've got a pretty bright future," Sharp said, drawing on a Kool Menthol cigarette. "Not for everybody, but for those who choose to stay competitive."

While government-set quotas keeps prices for tobacco stable — much like what OPEC does for oil prices — tobacco makes up a steadily decreasing portion of the U.S. farm economy.

Here in North Carolina, which produces more tobacco than any other U.S. state, the $1 billion industry accounted for less than 15 percent of total farm revenues in 1994.

In 1959, 47 percent of the state's farm income came from tobacco.

Tobacco farms are also increasingly diversified.

Both the Popes and the Johnsons long ago planted other crops. But they say without tobacco profits, ranging from $2,500 to $3,750 per hectare ($1,000 to $1,500 per acre), they never could have made it on grains or other crops and still maintained their quaint, small-farm lifestyle.

By contrast, peanuts, considered the next-highest cash crop, fetch about $750 per hectare ($300 an acre) in profits, while corn earns about $250 a hectare ($100 an acre).

"People will tell you to grow corn or cotton ... but there's no money in it — not like tobacco," said Brenda Johnson, 48, who fervently hopes her daughters will take over the tobacco farm when she and her husband retire.

"Only time will tell," she said, glancing at Carmen and Tammy.

A recent study, conducted in part by a local university, confirms a widening generation gap in attitudes about tobacco. Young farmers are much more likely to consider smoking dangerous, for example.

They were also twice as likely to have supplemented their income from other crops than older farmers, according to the study, conducted in the six states that grow the most tobacco.

North Carolina is known for its flue-cured, or heat dried, "bright" leaf tobacco that predominates in American blended cigarettes.

Pender Sharp, who farms the variety in Wilson County, east of the capital Raleigh in the heart North Carolina's tobacco belt, is a highly diversified farmer like many in the area.

But unlike many others, Sharp — whose two sons are following him into the farming business — is optimistic about tobacco's future.

He has 80 hectares (200 acres) of tobacco, and about 640 hectares (1,600 acres) of grain, potatoes and other crops, making him one of the largest farmers in the county. While tobacco makes up only 11 percent of sharp's total operation, it accounts for 40 percent of his profit.

However, the farms that can keep up with the cheap tobacco from abroad are a far cry from the 3.6 hectare (nine acre) farm his father tended — and from the many semi-mechanized small farms that have been able to survive even today.

Sharp notes that he can drive all day long through tobacco country and never cross a farmer's house, but cross dozens that used to belong to farmers who long since retired or sold their plots to others.

"I think we've got a pretty bright future," Sharp said, drawing on a Kool Menthol cigarette. "Not for everybody, but for those who choose to stay competitive."

Nepal to Discourage Amateur Climbers on Everest

KATHMANDU (Reuter) – Nepal plans to discourage inexperienced climbers from trying to scale Mount Everest after 11 people died in May during a deadly season on the world's highest mountain, officials said.

"We should be very particular about ... the climbers to see that amateurs are not included in the expeditions to higher peaks," said Tourism Minister Chakra Prasad Bastola.

"It should be taken as a sport rather than a gamble," he said. "There is a need to look into it and we are ready to make certain changes in rules if necessary."

The deaths in May surpassed the previous record of eight, set in 1970 and matched in 1988.

Caught in a ferocious blizzard, seven mountaineers died on the Nepali side this year. The others were on the Tibetan side.

The spring season begins in March and ends in May, while the autumn season runs from September to mid-November.

Authorities said some organizers of commercial expeditions charged clients high fees without informing them of the risks.

Bastola said an inexperienced climber could sign up for an expedition provided the mountaineer paid the steep fees Nepal requires. "In the process he gets trapped," the minister said.

Western climbers said they shared Bastola's concern but denied that all the deaths this year were due to inexperience.

"Basically there were a lot of people prepared to take a lot of risk," said Peter Athans, a mountain guide from Boulder, Colorado. "There was a very violent storm."

"If there are inexperienced people going they need to be with experienced climbers," Athans said.

Royalties and other spending by foreign climbers make up a major part of Nepal's total annual tourism revenue of some $90 million, 4.4 percent of gross domestic product, officials said.

Mountaineering also provides jobs to thousands of Nepalis.

In May, 84 people climbed Everest. The record for a single season, set in 1993, is 90.

Athans, 39, a four-time Everest veteran, said in view of the limited space for setting up at camp three at 7,300 meters (23,947 feet), the number of expeditions along the most used route in Nepal should be limited to eight per season.

This year 10 teams made an attempt along the normal route to the 8,848 meter (29,028 feet) Everest summit.

In an effort to protect the environment, Nepal introduced a one-route-one-team rule in 1993 and limited the number of climbers in a team to seven.

But before the start of this spring's climbing season, Nepal, concerned over the growing number of climbers who were making assaults on the summit through Tibet, relaxed the curbs on the number of mountaineers while increasing the fees.

Some Pakistani Exporters Opt for Sunday Weekend

KARACHI, Pakistan (Reuter) – Exporters in the industrial city of Faisalabad have adopted a Sunday weekend instead of the official Friday holiday in an effort to win more export orders, a local businessman said on Sunday.

Pakistan, an Islamic Republic, observes a Friday weekend, with government offices and most banks also shut on Saturdays.

Sunday is a working day, but exporters complain that they can do no business abroad on that day. They also find it hard to contact American trading partners on Mondays because of a nine-hour time difference.

The government has considered switching to an official Sunday weekend, but faces opposition from religious groups.

Ruins of 16th Century French Fort Found in America

WASHINGTON (AFP) – The ruins of a 16th century fort built by French Huguenots fleeing religious wars in France have been found in South Carolina and are believed to be the oldest European ruins in the United States.

American historians had long known that a fort had been founded there in 1562 in the name of France's Charles IX (1550-1574) but no one had been able to find it until researchers from the University of South Carolina discovered it on Parris Island, best known for a tough marine boot camp.

The fort had been extraordinarily difficult to find because the Spanish had built their own site, Santa Elena, on top of it during the period in which they considered Florida their territory, said Chester Depratter, who teaches archeology at the University of South Carolina.

Researchers have found pot shards that have been authenticated as coming from France, and a full scale excavation should begin next year.

The fort was one of a series of small European settlements that were eventually abandoned or the residents killed off. It was established three years before the Spanish founded Saint Augustine, in Florida, which was previously believed to be the first European settlement in this country.

The Huguenots also predated English colonists in the doomed Jamestown colony in Virginia in 1607 and a North Carolina colony in 1585, said Depratter.

The group was led by Jean Ribaut, who brought about 150 Huguenots to the New World in 1562 to escape persecution from Roman Catholics.

But Ribaut and most of the Huguenots, followers of the Protestant John Calvin, returned to France almost immediately to look for more colonizers. They left behind 28 men led by Albert de la Pierra.

But the France that Ribaut returned to was in the midst of a civil war, and so he opted to go to Britain to ask Queen Elizabeth for help for his colony.

Instead he was arrested as a spy and imprisoned in the tower of London. While in prison, he wrote about his trip to America, a document that has fascinated historians.

He was eventually freed and raised the money for a trip to America in 1565 but never again saw the fort he had founded.

Albert de la Pierra had been killed in a mutiny. Just 22 men were left when they decided to return to Europe in April 1653 and were picked up and rescued in September, said Depratter.

There's Nothing Fishy About Fish

If you haven't been eating much fish lately now's the time to start. It's so simple to cook, easy to digest and won't cost you too many calories.

Fish has a new image: superhealthy. But is it the perfect food for slimmers? The answer is probably yes.

Fish and shellfish, like meat, are high in protein, but where fish comes out on top is that, unlike meat, it does not contain considerable amounts of highly saturated fats. Saturated fats tend to raise the level of cholesterol in the blood. Current nutritional advice is to eat as little saturated fat as possible. Fat means calories and, again, some fish scores. White fish is extremely low in fat, only around one to two percent in fact, making it much lower in calories than meat. Not all fish is low in calories, however. Oily fish contains 10 to 20 percent fat but it includes some polyunsaturated fats not found in other foods. These fats have been beneficially linked to reducing heart disease.

Yet another reason why fish is superior to meat, and why we should eat more, is that it's a storecupboard of vitamins and minerals. Vitamin D, obtained mainly from sunlight on our skin, is abundant in oily fish such as herring and mackerel, and is our main food source of this vitamin. These fish also provide large amounts of vitamin A.

The level of B vitamins is particularly good in tuna, sardines, herring and some shellfish. Fish where bones are eaten are a rich source of calcium. All types of fish are full of phosphorus, essential for good strong bones.

Shell fish are especially rich in minerals including zinc, iodine, iron and copper and are low in calories. Some shellfish such as prawns, crab, squid and clams and also fish roe have been found to contain extremely high levels of cholesterol. Eaten in moderation, there's no need to worry about this unless you are on a low cholesterol diet.

Seafood also scores another health point over most meats: it isn't produced by intensive farming methods and so doesn't contain antibodies or growth hormones, which may be present in meat.

Once you've decided on fish, don't spoil the health and calorie advantage by cooking fish the oldfashioned way, in oil or batter. Try steaming, grilling, microwaving or making "parcels" — wrapping fish in foil so the fish cooks in its own juices.

Diabetes and the Eye

Diabetes is a disease which can affect many parts of the eye. When it affects the retina, it is called Diabetic Retinopathy.

The eye is similar to a camera in that it takes a photograph of an object seen by it. In the camera, an object is focussed on the film by a lens. This image is inverted and is developed in the studio and made into an erect one. The same way, an object is focussed by the lens of the eye on the retina which is the film. This image is also inverted and is made erect by the brain.

Diabetes mellitus is a condition which impairs the body's ability to use and store sugar. Thus blood sugar increases, excessive thirst and increase in urine output occur. Diabetes may cause serious problems in the eye, like cataract and decreased vision. In diabetic retinopathy damage occurs to the retina.

The retina has a large number of blood vessels which nourish it. In diabetic retinopathy, these vessels become weak and start leaking fluid or blood. This leaking fluid or blood can damage the retina and when that happens, the image sent to the brain is blurred and the patient begins to lose vision.

Diabetic patients must have a regular checkups. An indirect ophthalmoscopic examination will detect diabetic retinopathy. To see which blood vessel is leaking, a fluorescein angiography test may be done. In this, a fluorescent dye is injected into the patient's arm. This dye travels through the bloodstream and passes into the blood vessels of the retina.

Photographs of the dye are taken rapidly as it leaks through the retina's blood vessels.

In early stages, control of diabetes is enough. If the case is more advanced, laser photocoagulation may have to be done. This procedure focusses a powerful beam of laser light on the damaged retina to close the leaking vessels. This procedure can be done as an outpatient basis. In the very late stages, if the retina is separated from its base and blood has collected in the eye, an operation in which a vitrectomy and retina detachment repair have to be done is necessary. In vitrectomy, fluid is passed into the eye through an infusion line and using a light source inside the eye called fibreoptic illumination the blood is cleared with a machine called a vitrectomy machine with a suction and a cutting tip.

(Courtesy The Hindu)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1963 - Greek Premier Constantine Caramanlis resigns in protest of King Paul's state visit to Britain.

1969 - Soviet and Chinese troops clash on Sinkiang border.

1970 - Palestinian guerrillas and King Hussein's army sign truce in Jordan after week of heavy clashes.

1971 - Soviet Communist Party Chief Leonid I. Brezhnev calls for end to arms race between U.S. and U.S.S.R.

1981 - Earthquake in southeast Iran kills at least 1,500 people.

1984 - Jordan's King Hussein says United States is disqualified as a peacemaker in Middle East and that an international conference is only way to settle disputes.

1992 - President Bush is forced to flee from gunfire and teargas disrupting his visit to Panama.

1993 - North Korea reverses its decision to withdraw from a treaty to prevent the spread of nulear weapons.

THOUGHT

REVENGE proves its own executioner.

(Jon Ford)

PRAYER

Noon	13:04
Evening	20:43
Dawn (tomorrow)	3:49
Sunrise (tomorrow)	5:48

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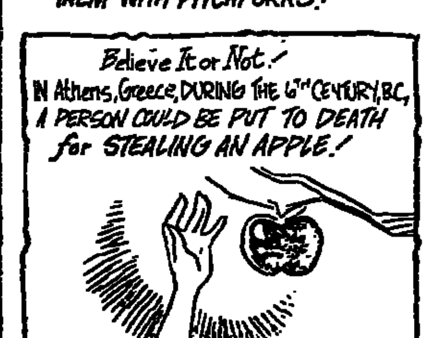
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PAR SCORE 150-160

by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL ____
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

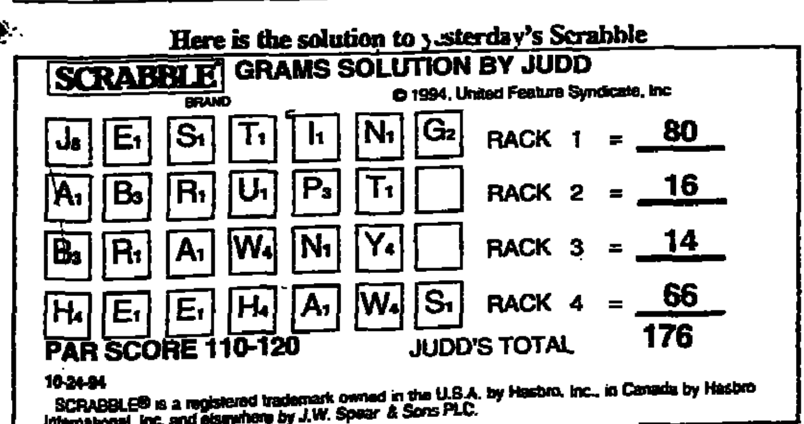
DIRECTIONS: *Make a 2- to 7- letter word from the letters in each row.* To total points of your words, use scoring directions to right of each row. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words can be found in OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). **JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW**

10-25-94

FERD'NAND ® by Henrik Rehr



Here is the solution to yesterday's Scrabble


SCRABBLE BRAND GRAMS SOLUTION BY JUDD

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J8	E1	S1	T1	I1	N1	G2	RACK 1 =	80
A1	B3	R1	U1	P3	T1		RACK 2 =	16
B3	R1	A1	W4	N1	Y4		RACK 3 =	14
H4	E1	E1	H4	A1	W4	S1	RACK 4 =	66
							JUDD'S TOTAL	176

PAR SCORE 110-120

10-24-94

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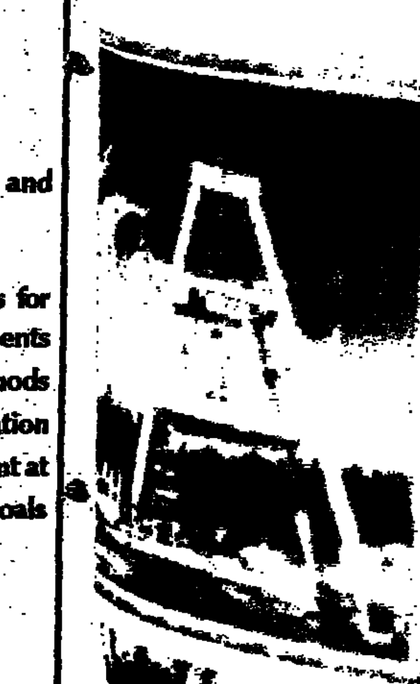
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Chronology of the Peace Process in Northern Ireland



LONDON (AFP) — The opening Monday in Belfast of all-party talks on the future of Northern Ireland was the culmination of a peace process which was re-launched in December 1993.

Herewith are the main events:

December 15, 1993 — Anglo-Irish Downing Street declaration set out a general framework for an agreement and invite Sinn Fein, the IRA's political arm, to join in talks in exchange for an IRA cease-fire.

August 31, 1994 — The Irish Republican Army announce the "complete cessation of its military operations." Loyalist Protestant paramilitaries announce a similar cease-fire on October 13.

February 22, 1995 — British and Irish prime ministers, John Major and John Bruton unveil joint proposals for Northern Ireland's future institutions, to include a local assembly with some degree of autonomy and cross-border organizations. The final accord is to be put to the people in a referendum.

May 10, 1995 — The first of a series of meetings between Michael Ancram, minister of state for Northern Ireland, and the deputy leader of Sinn Fein, Martin McGuinness.

November-January 1995 — An international commission chaired by former U.S. Senator George Mitchell, set up to discuss disarming paramilitaries, concludes that decommissioning of arms should take place "in parallel" with political talks.

January 1996 — Major proposes holding elections in Northern Ireland to choose delegates to the talks. The Republicans reject the move as a "diversion."

February 9, 1996 — The IRA ends its 17-month-old cease-fire with a bomb in London which kills two and injures 100. IRA leaders accuse London and the unionists of missing the opportunity to bring peace to the province. The IRA claims six other attacks in mainland Britain between February 9 and April 24.

February 28 — Major and Bruton vow to launch multi-party talks on June 10, saying Sinn Fein will be excluded unless the IRA restores its cease-fire.

March 4 to 13 — Talks take place among all the Northern Ireland political parties, but Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams is not allowed to take part.

March 16 — London and Dublin make public a framework document for the talks agenda, focusing on Northern Ireland's internal affairs, relations between the province and the Irish Republic and relations between London and Dublin.

April 4 — The IRA reaffirms that it will not disarm before a final settlement to the conflict was reached.

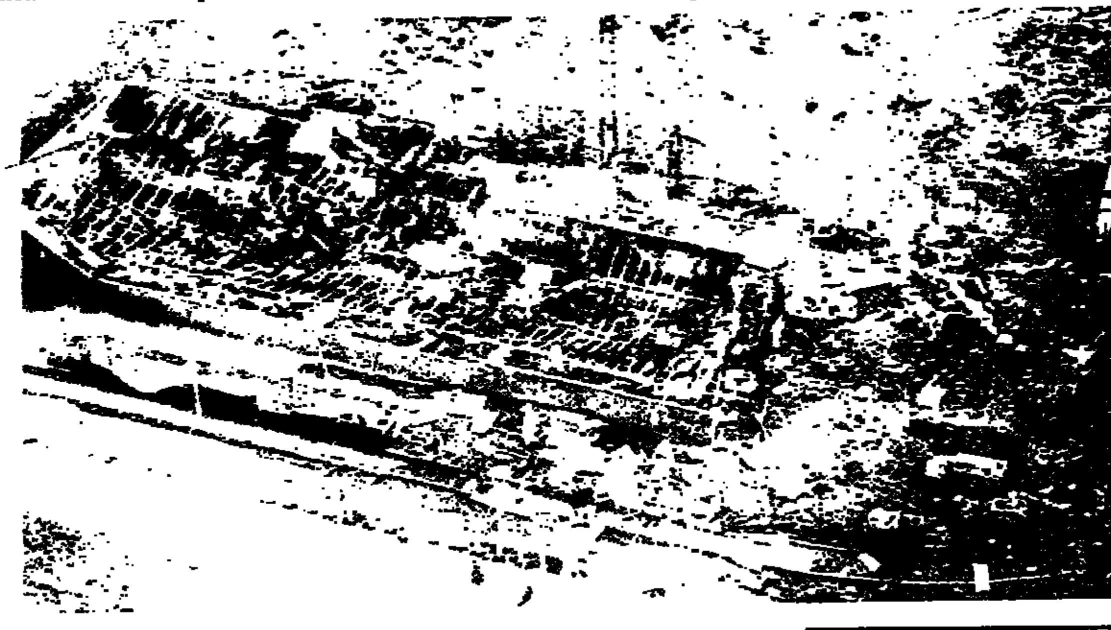
May 15 — For the first time, Major states that the problem of disarmament could be treated "without blocking" the June 10 talks.

May 20 — Adams says he is "ready to subscribe" to the six principles of Mitchell's report and to renounce violence in favor of democratic methods but only within the framework of "real multiparty negotiations" in which Sinn Fein would participate.

May 30 — Elections are held in Northern Ireland in which Sinn Fein scores a record 15.5 percent but which also reaffirm the ulster Unionist Party as the province's biggest party.

June 4 — The IRA announces there is "no probability" of a cease-fire before June 10 as long as London insists on a pledge to disarm prior to talks.

June 6 — London and Dublin name Mitchell to chair the talks and parallel discussions on disarmament. The Republicans welcome the choice. Progress in the talks is to be assessed some time in September.



Breathing in Cities Can Be Bad for Your Health

LONDON (Reuter) – You have to breathe to live but taking a deep breath in many cities could damage your health.

With more people than ever living in urban areas, pollution and smog are on the increase — cloaking some cities and triggering fits of wheezing, coughing and teary eyes.

"The world's cities are choking on pollution from traffic and industry," said Derek Elsom, author of the book *"Smog Alert: Managing Urban Air Quality"*.

"With the health of over 1.6 billion people under threat, poor urban air quality is fast becoming one of the most pressing environmental problems of our times."

Los Angeles and the Hollywood hills shrouded in a dark haze, or Athens overcome by the fumes of paralyzed traffic, are among the best-known examples of smog.

"If you think about water pollution, you can always try to buy your water but you have to breathe your local air."

Elsom, professor of climatology at Oxford Brookes University, predicts the ever-increasing number of motor vehicles may reach one billion by 2030. Car fumes cause even more problems during hot weather.

But environmental officials warn the problem is widespread and growing, particularly in developing countries where urban areas are mushrooming.

"All large cities in developing countries which have had a major increase in road traffic are at risk," said Dorothee Richter, of the Monitoring and Assessment Research Center at Kings College in London.

"Los Angeles, Athens and London, these are well-known problems because they've been investigated, but Mexico City is also very bad," she added.

Elsom said population growth — coupled with increased demands for energy, food, sanitation, housing and particularly transport — is at the heart of the pollution problem.

In 1990, 43 percent of the world's 5.3 billion people were concentrated in urban areas.

Eighteen cities had more than nine million people and 29 had more than six million.

Elsom, professor of climatology at Oxford Brookes University, predicts the ever-increasing number of motor vehicles may reach one billion by 2030. Car fumes cause even more problems during hot weather.

Summer smog occurs on warm, windless days when photochemical activity encourages the formation of ozone.

The gas is made by chemical reactions in the atmosphere involving sunlight and emissions of pollutants from traffic, factories, power stations and other sources.

Ozone increases in concentrations as pollutants drift towards urban areas causing a thick, heavy cloud that sits on cities and makes life hell for residents.

European environment ministers earlier this month set an ambitious target of eliminating summertime smog by 2005.

The ministers said they had agreed to exchange information and forecasts about levels of health-threatening ozone, enabling their governments to issue health warnings and take preventative measures before the poisonous gas reaches dangerous levels.

They would also take measures to reduce production of the gases that produce ozone at ground level. They planned to urge the European Union to speed up measures for tighter car exhaust limits and were watching with interest a project in Germany, where use of cars that produce high emissions was banned under certain meteorological conditions.

Winter smog results from low temperatures which lead to increased energy consumption that boosts the emissions of sulfur dioxide. Cars operate less efficiently in cold weather causing more emissions of carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons.

But whatever the season, smog is a health hazard, causing damage to vegetation, impaired lung functions, increased respiratory disorders and even death.

"A lot of epidemiological studies have been done and it has been proven now that health effects are caused by poor ambient air quality. Asthma, all kinds of respiratory diseases, cardiovascular diseases have been related to poor air quality. So there is proof," said Richter.

During London's winter smog of 1952, 4,000 additional deaths have been directly related to the poor air quality, she added.

Elsom said there is no one magical solution to solve the urban pollution problem. Individuals, governments and industry all have a role to play.

"Technology has a contribution to make but, more importantly, we have to make people more aware of the situation and their responsibilities. Their actions are the cause of the problem," he said.

"Try to avoid causing air pollution yourself. Don't drive as much, use public transport because its exposure to air pollution is lower. Stop open fires and try to support clean industries. ...Try to avoid causing air pollution yourself,"

Reducing the number of vehicles on the roads is one step towards tackling the problem. Government and industry must also do their part by investing in public transport systems, installing monitoring networks, emission inventories and by defining air quality standards.

"Try to avoid causing air pollution yourself," said Richter. "Don't drive as much, use public transport because its exposure to air pollution is lower. Stop open fires and try to support clean industries."

If individuals, government and industry don't act, the situation will only get worse, she warned.

"If you think about water pollution, you can always try to buy your water but you have to breathe your local air."

"With the health of over 1.6 billion people under threat, poor urban air quality is fast becoming one of the most pressing environmental problems of our times."

Japan Cuts 'em Up

The latest surveys prove it — Japanese car manufacturers lead the field. So what's their secret?

Move over BMW and Mercedes. According to the latest JD Power lists (the motor industry's largest annual customer satisfaction survey) the cars that cause their owners the fewest headaches are from the land of the rising sun.

For the third year running, top place went to the Toyota Corolla (23.5 million sold since its launch 30 years ago, making it the world's best-selling car). All the top 10 were Japanese-made, and only seven of the top 20 were built by non-Japanese made, and only seven of the top 20 were built by non-Japanese companies.

So what is it about Japanese cars that makes them inherent "better"? Is it design, construction or something else?

"Basic engineering is certainly a Japanese strength," says Jim Foden, technical adviser to the Motor Vehicle Repairers Association. "Early Datsuns and Hondas fell down on poor bodywork -- which has since been rectified -- but their mechanics were always top-notch. The engines and transmissions were, and are, engineered to higher tolerances than those of European cars, and the basic metallurgy of them is more robust.

"European manufacturers still see 100,000 miles as the natural lifespan — the Japanese think bigger. Their designs are simple, and the engines are always beautifully balanced. With an old Datsun Sunny, you could balance a 50p on edge on the engine rocker cover, and it wouldn't fall off until you went down to 400rpm. With British cars, the vibration was so great that it fell off at the normal idle speed of 800rpm."

A spokesman for Nissan, which had three cars in the JD Power top 20, explains: "We put our success down to our philosophy of 'over-engineering'. Most European manufacturers rate a component for its expected usage over three years — and design and test it to that standard. We set our design standards much higher. On some components, that means testing them for 1,200 hours of continuous usage. Overall, 90 percent of our test standards are more demanding than the Europeans'."

Daniel Jones of Cardiff Business School is an independent adviser to many car manufacturers. The high reliability of the Japanese car, he says, is only to be expected.

"No manufacturer has ever been able to get 100 percent performance from all 100,000 components in an average car, but the Japanese come closest," he says. "Seventy percent of components in most cars are made by other firms. The secret of the Japanese success is helping their suppliers to meet higher standards.

One survey in 1993 found that European manufacturers were finding 16,000 defective components in every million supplied to them — the Japanese average was just 200. The Europeans have improved to 100 defects per million parts — but Toyota is now down to 50."

The fundamental design of components, too, is a Japanese forte. "In 1989, we also did a survey of manufacturers' 'teardown' departments — the guys who take apart their competitors' products," says Professor Jones. "When we asked them all to rank their rivals' components for ease of manufacture, they all put the Japanese at the top of their lists." While European manufacturers have made improvements in recent years, Jones estimates that it will be another four or five years before their customers feel the full benefits.



Top dog the Toyota Corolla (above). Ford's Escort (right) is Britain's biggest seller, but is loathed for poor reliability and came third last in the approval survey.

Naturally, big manufacturers like Vauxhall and Ford, both of whom fare poorly in the JD Power survey (the Ford Escort, Britain's best-selling car, is rated third from bottom), pooh-pooh its results. They claim the respondents to questionnaires were mostly older drivers with privately owned cars, who are likely to do less mileage — and hence see fewer problems than a company-car driver.

A neat dodge. But even if it's true, it may not be for much longer. The Japanese have long shunned the company-car market as unprofitable, but fleet buyers are increasingly tempted by their products' hardy reputation. Nissan's sales to the fleet market were up 25 percent last year, and Toyota's 40 percent. Ford's and Vauxhall's market shares have correspondingly fallen.

"Ford still sells more — 230,000 to Nissan's 40,000 — but the Japanese are fast catching up," says Ashley Martin, editor of Fleet News. "They put their money where their mouth is, offering three-year, 60,000-mile warranties — something the competition still seems reluctant to do."

(Focus)

Fujitsu to Postpone Microchip Production in U.S., Britain

TOKYO (AFP) – Japan's Fujitsu Ltd. said Monday it would postpone a plan to build a new 16-megabit dynamic random access memory (DRAM) chip plant in Britain and delay operations at a U.S. plant amid easing demand.

The electronics maker was to hold a news conference later in the day to outline revisions to its 16-megabit DRAM production plan for the year to March 1997, company officials said.

Fujitsu has invested $1 billion in a new plant in Oregon through a U.S. semiconductor subsidiary to make 16-megabit and 64-megabit DRAM chips from early 1997, but the plan will be postponed for six months.

The company is considering canceling production of 16-megabit DRAM chips at the U.S. plant and launch production of 64- megabit DRAMs from the start, the officials said.

As for the British output, Fujitsu planned to invest 120 billion yen ($1.1 billion) in a new plant with the construction start originally set for April this year and production for mid-1997.

In view of plunging prices of 16-megabit DRAMs, Fujitsu in March decided to delay construction until December, with production to start 1998 or later.

But construction may be further postponed until as late as the second half of 1998, while Fujitsu considers launching 64-megabit and 256-megabit DRAM production at the British plant.



Cuts 'em

German Foreign Minister Calls For Immigration Law



BONN (Reuter) — Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel called on Sunday for Germany to adopt a new approach to immigration that would make it easier for foreigners to get German citizenship even if they have no German ancestors.

A party congress by the Liberal Free Democrats (FDP), junior coalition partners to Chancellor Helmut Kohl's conservatives, endorsed the idea, but arch-conservatives rejected the proposal as going too far.

"Germany needs an overall concept for immigration and integration," Kinkel wrote in the weekly *Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung*. "This would not expand immigration, but regulate it more clearly and this make it more predictable."

A law on immigration would help ease the process, he said, suggesting that Germany draw up selection criteria that could include the state of the jobs market, professional qualifications, housing availability and social integration.

"Our existing nationality law is not doing justice to our society as it become more international," he wrote. "It must be easier for foreigners whose lives center on Germany in the long term to have access to German citizenship."

He suggested third-generation immigrants should become German citizens at birth.

He also called for liberalizing civil rights of foreigners who do not seek citizenship, allowing them the right to vote and stand for office at local level after five years in Germany.

The idea of granting citizenship to foreigners immediately ran into trouble with the conservative *Christian Social Union* (CSU), Bavarian-based sister party to Kohl's Christian Democrats.

"Germany is not a land of immigration and we will not make it into one," said CSU General Secretary Bernd Protzner. "There will be no such law as long as the CSU can help it."

Immigration became a hot issue this year when opposition Social Democrats proposed limiting the influx of ethnic Germans from the former Soviet Union.

Germany has been taking in ethnic Germans, many of them banished to Siberia or Central Asia by Soviet dictator Josef Stalin, at more than 200,000 a year since 1988.

They had evoked little public resentment, in contrast to waves of asylum seekers from Eastern Europe and the Third World.

Out of 80 million people in Germany, around seven million are foreigners, most of them people who have lived here for years if not decades.

Around a quarter of them were born in Germany, many the offspring of "guest workers" from Turkey, Yugoslavia and Similar countries who began arriving in the 1960s to help fuel Germany's post-war economic miracle.

Germany has traditionally been reluctant to extend citizenship to foreigners under a system that determines who is German by blood lines rather than place of birth.

But aware of Nazi-era abuses, it has been generous in taking in refugees. It brought in more than 400,000 refugees from former Yugoslavia, for instance, more than all the other European countries combined.

More Than 13 Percent of Children Work, UN Says

GENEVA (AP) — More than 13 percent of the world's children work, according to a United Nations report published ahead of a Conference on Child Labor.

The survey by the UN labor agency, published Monday, says 73 million children aged 10 to 14 are known to be employed.

Taking into account younger children and girls working as domestic servants for which figures are not available, the real number of child laborers is likely to be in the hundreds of million, it said.

"Today's child worker will be tomorrow's uneducated and untrained adult, forever trapped in grinding poverty," said Michel Hansenne, director-general of the International Labor Organization.

In a one-day ministerial conference beginning Wednesday, labor ministers from the ILO's 173 members states will discuss way to eliminate child labor. In particular they will focus on the worst abuses: slave labor, child prostitution and work with toxic substances.

The worst area for working children is Asia, where 44.6 million children are employed, the report said, making up 13 percent of the child population. In Africa, 26.3 percent of 10- to 14-year-olds work, or 3.6 million children. In Latin America, 5.1 million children are employed, making up 9.8 percent of the age group.

The problem also exists in richer nations. In southern Europe "significant numbers" of children are working in seasonal activities, in street trade or in small workshops, the ILO said.

Most of the world's working children are employed without pay within their own families, the report said.

In Ecuador, for example, a 1994 survey on living conditions found that 77 percent of rural children aged 12 to 14 and 50 percent of city children worked within the family.

In a worrying trend, however, child labor is being seen by families less as a means of helping the child acquire skills useful for the future and more as a way of supplementing the family income, it said.

In Colombia, for example, 60 percent of all child workers in 1992 were working outside the family.

The report said children often start work as young as 5 or 6 and work long hours each day. Most are employed in farming where they must face the dangers of sharp tools, toxic chemicals and motorized equipment. Many girls work as domestic servants away from home and can become victims of physical, mental or sexual abuse.



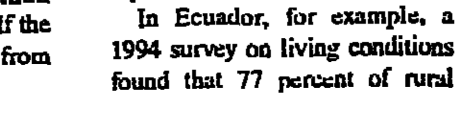
The growing aids epidemic is an added problem, leading to an increase in child prostitution as adults search for younger and younger partners who they believe are less likely to be infected with the virus, according to the report.

Another extremely serious problem was slavery, it said. Child slaves are in South Asia and East Africa as well as in two Latin American countries, the ILO found.

They work largely in agriculture, quarrying and bricklaying, carpet and textile industries and in prostitution.

The practice is usually associated with so called "debt bondage" where a family has to sell a child to pay a debt incurred over a social or religious obligation, or simply to for he family to survive, the ILO said.

"The ILO doctrine is clear: labor carried out by children of 15 years or younger under conditions which stifle their physical, psychological and intellectual development must be eliminated," Hansenne said.



UNICEF: South Asia Holds the Record for Malnutrition

PARIS (AFP) — In its most recent report on the progress of nations, UNICEF has devoted an important chapter to South Asia which it says is home to the world's most malnourished children.

The report revealed that, although "over 30 percent of Africa's children are underweight, the corresponding figure for South Asia is over 50 percent."

"Half of the world's malnourished children are to be found in just three countries — Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan," the report stated.

The chapter on nutrition put forward research conducted by three UNICEF experts in child health and nutrition, all currently working in Asia, and looking for an explanation to the Asian syndrome.

In attempting to explain the particular backwardness of South Asia, UNICEF dismissed the poverty factor, saying the average level of purchasing power in South Asia is almost identical to that of sub-Saharan Africa.

The higher level of malnourishment in South Asia, compared to sub-Saharan Africa, is also not due to government negligence, commented researchers, saying the government of India, for one, had "sustained the largest effort in history to improve nutritional standards".

According to the report, the first major reason for child malnutrition is the poor care given to women in patriarchal societies.

Research showed that in South Asia the tradition factor plays a particularly important part in the issue, even more so than in sub-Saharan Africa.

Comparing the two regions, the article stated that "girls and women in South Asia seem to be generally less well cared for by their families, their partners, and their societies."

"Demands made in patriarchal South Asian societies on the time and energies of women are visibly more excessive and unfair than in other regions of the world," it continued.

As a result, South Asian women are particularly undernourished during pregnancy compared with their African counterparts, with damaging results for their children: in Bangladesh, for example, one half of babies are born with low birth weight.

Besides tradition, the second major reason for malnourishment of children is illness, caused by poor standards of hygiene.

Because South Asia has approximately ten times as many people per square kilometer as sub-Saharan Africa, maintaining decent hygiene standards in overcrowded urban slums is also a much heavier task, UNICEF said.

Attitude towards child care plays its part also: according to the report, traditionally an African woman will make her children a priority, whereas in South Asia, the focus of a woman's responsibilities will be her husband and mother-in-law.

UNICEF suggested that the first steps towards improvement should include better health, education and nutrition for women.

The organization also stressed the necessity of moving the issue of malnutrition from the agenda of welfare to the agenda of rights.

"It is the right of a child to have adequate care, and to grow to the mental and physical potential with which he or she was born."

"But in practice this will mean little if the violation of women's rights continues to be regarded as normal and acceptable", UNICEF concluded.

200 More Graves Found in Liberian Capital

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP) — Another 200 graves have been discovered in the Liberian capital, possibly bringing to more than 520 the number of victims buried in shallow graves during factional fighting in Monrovia.

Dr. Isaac Moses, Liberia's chief pathologist, said that a team of volunteers working under the World Health Organization, International Committee for the Red Cross and the Liberian Health Ministry discovered another 200 graves Saturday.

Moses said that if bodies were uncovered in each of the graves, more than 520 bodies will have been exhumed for proper burial. He said that 321 bodies had been reburied since he launched a campaign a week ago to give the bodies proper burials for public health reasons.

Moses said the campaign had not yet reached the Barclay Training Center, the military barracks at the center of the clashes that began April 6. When the government issued an arrest warrant on murder charges against rebel leader and ousted Cabinet Minister Roosevelt Johnson, his Ulimo-J forces seized the barracks and remain there. Johnson left the country but his Krahn forces still hold the barracks.

Moses said that at least 120 bodies had been buried on the beach near the training center.

Dozens of other bodies were washed away after they were dumped in canals during the early days of the fighting, others were burned after dogs began to chew on the corpses.

Johnson's rival, Charles Taylor, a member of the ruling six-man Council of State, launched the Liberian civil war in December 1989. It has since evolved into a power struggle among seven rival factions, taking more than 150,000 lives and forcing half the country's 3 million people from their homes.

Hong Kong Deports 199 Vietnamese Boat People

HONG KONG (AFP) — A group of 199 Vietnamese boat people was forcibly repatriated Monday as Hong Kong stepped up measures to clear the territory of all asylum seekers before the handover to China next year.

The group of 97 men, 50 women, and 52 children, who mostly arrived in Hong Kong in 1991, returned by air to Hanoi without putting up resistance, a government spokesman said.

It was the 40th group to have been repatriated since an agreement was reached between London and Hanoi in November 1991, bringing the total number of boat people forcibly repatriated under the so-called orderly repatriation program to 3,328.

The Vietnamese asylum seekers were earlier removed from the whitehead detention camp following rioting and escapes on May 10.

The government plans to remove the remaining 16,770 Vietnamese in Hong Kong camps before the territory's handover to China on July 1, 1997, as Beijing has demanded.

In May, a total of 1,391 boat people returned to Vietnam, the largest monthly repatriation since January 1994.



Handicrafts: The Art of the People

Part 2

Or the space of Iranian paintingè—and even more so the even less seemingly



representational decorative arts of the carpet and textiles, the garden and faience architectural revetment, arthitecture and ottery—is neither a two-dimensional space nor a three-dimensional space. It is not a three-dimensional space in the sense that Greece and Rome, through Europe's novel teaching since the Renaissance, have accustomed us to "judge" and to enjoy space-imagery: the articulated automation-system, closed and "logical," of space "which walks by itself," the technique of "correct" perspective, of "natural" relief, of chiaroscuro, etc.

The Iranian space is much more intense than that: it is neither two nor three-dimensional; it is about to become three-dimensional. Iran's charm and power, its "limitations" also—the "deformative," "illogical"



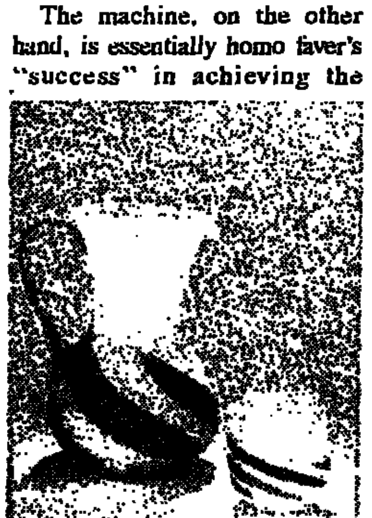
absurdities of Iran's space-conception—come from this aboutness. Hence its affinities with our own modern space-conception, which is about to overcome the impositions of an articulated and close three-dimensionality. Hence also its neighborliness to the Romanesque experience. For Iranian space is also dominated by volition-emotion. But its particularity, its uniqueness, consists in the ultimate alliance between this "volition"-image and the pure, naive first "image"-idea: alliance.

Iranian mentality, as was shown to us, is not a struggle against "judgment." It is the will, the effort to "judge," the nostalgia-memory of "judgment"; and at the same time it is the impossibility of exercising "judgement," the something-against-it preventing.

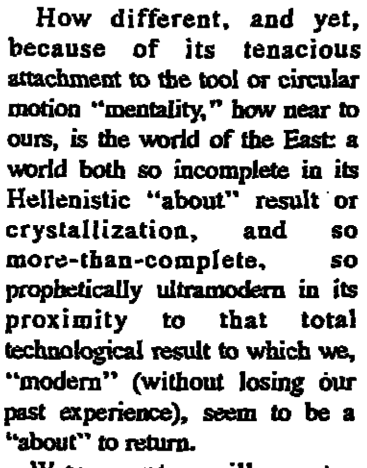
This obstruction, what is it? To lay the foundation to our question, granted that Europe and Iran, West and East, belong to the same historical current of visual realization, why did Europe create its formula of three-dimensionality, whereas the Near East, the East in general, did not. This time we propose a hypothesis:

Because the West discovered the "machine" and the East did not. Iran knew the tool, but not the machine. Iran belonged to the cyclic mentality of tool-facture (the feudal collective mentality) and not of machine-facture (the "capitalistic" collective mentality). A tool being, as it is usually formulated, "the continued hand," the tool-facture mentality is a hand—or manufacture mentality. Its constructed or fabricated "object"—mental or plastic—is limited to the immediate, organic physical, one might say, bodily dependence on possession of space—mental or plastic: a between-the-eye-and-the-hand possession and certainty. The solemn laying on of the hand as a token of the feudal principle of personal confidence during the "homage" and fief-granding ceremonies; the personal physical relation—of combined violence and protection-between the lord and the serf or between the personified Divinity and the praying soul of the sinner; the personal physical attachment to the soil; the directness of the individual participation in wars, and the individual physical, the hand-skill in feudal crafts and arts—all this goes deeply into the dense roots of human body, or hand, awareness, the roots of what we called the manufacture, the hand-facture "mentality." The resulting "object"—mental or plastic—does not "walk by itself" but "walks with us," because of us.

The machine, on the other hand, is essentially homo faver's "success" in achieving the



independence of the mind's function from the body's or the hand's function. It is the "technological" objectivation of judgment. It is—even if only temporarily or not indefintely—"the thing which walks by itself." The idea of this



independence was born (and this is part of my hypothesis), in classical Greece, although the machine as an object, as a precise technical device, was not created or appplied in Greece.

The application of this principle of independence from the body, from the limitations of between-the-eye-and-the-hand, gave Europe the machine and the three-dimensionality of space—mental and plastic.

Now—and this was precisely my hypothesis—Islam, the Islamic Iran of our eye's journey, was about to create this three-dimensionality, because Iran was also about to create the machine.

(There is the feminine constant, the awareness of it, in reference to points in space. Awareness of body especially as in the points in the space of the gilims woven by Kurdish and Qashgai women or the awareness of body shown in the pottery of both the women modelers of Baluchistan who show how the craft was invented by women, as well as the male wheel-thrown forms of the millennia since until today which retain yet their feminine origins. "She" belongs to the world of touch, by which "she" participates in the world.)

The tool is usually defined, broadly, as a "continued hand." The tool, says Francois Mentre, is undoubtedly a prolongation of the hand, this universal tool, so that the ensemble of tools exhausts an analysis of all the movements executed by the human hand or by both hands associated.

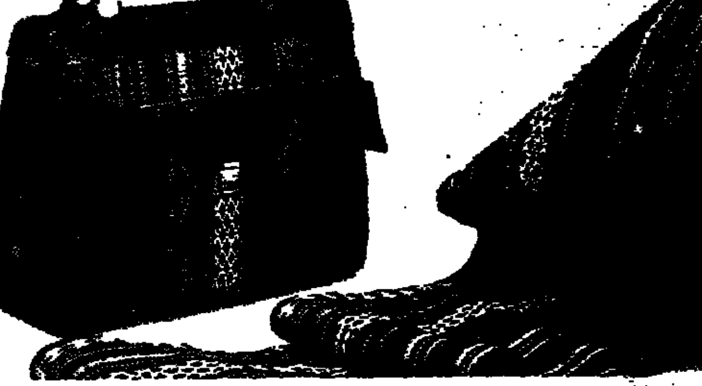
How different, and yet, because of its tenacious attachment to the tool or circular motion "mentality," how near to ours, is the world of the East: a world both so incomplete in its Hellenistic "about" result or crystallization, and so more-than-complete, so prophetically ultramodern in its proximity to that total technological result to which we, "modern" (without losing our past experience), seem to be a "about" to return.

Water—water mills, water clocks, manuscripts and more manuscripts buried in libraries of the Orient, full of illustrated descriptions of hydrostatic automations, of water wheels, of balances, of elevations of water: that is what dominates absolutely the entire Eastern perspective of technology, as it in so many ways dominates the iconography of folk art decoration in Iran.

We were perplexed. In saying: m"mobility-stability equilibrium"; in saying: "the art of the Persinas was about to acquire its spatial fullness"—are we not indeed revealing the intimate mechanism of our own result-participation rather than theirs? Are we not therefore, and first of all, destroying that lovely and accessible to all, by all accepted, truth which is the simple poetical joy and ese of all Persian Art? Aren't we, with out difficult, complex and heavy "digging," destroying all this joy and ease: the simple and tangible poetry of Islamic Persia's figural, architectural, and abstract splendor' Persia's poise and playful grace; the triumph of rhythm in its imagery-crowded royal hunts, courtly mass soymmetries, sky-and-flowers, trees-and-adolescence, tranquil sages and water, geometric figures—and above all, that intimate sense of family, as life's center everywhere present there, from the cozy house-home of God to the cozy house-home of the lord, from a glistening, delicate and cozy luster piece to a cleverly-thought-out, delicate, dense and also cozy textile, a passionate sense of mother-and-father's peace, the truly intellectual ideal of the nomads, infused so constantly into Iran's life sensitiveness?

In art—our chosen concern here—this inner circle-chemisty defines the degree of our participation in our behavior toward the integral past.

First circle: we enjoy art, we enjoy its confort. We enjoy art as



belonging to the past. For art and the study of art, even if it is today's art, belongs to the past. And the past is comfortable: it is as such outside of our control, thus of our responsibility. We enjoy art, we enjoy the past, we enjoy history.

Second circle: ideas, rules, categories of reality. Permanence.



Presence. The time center of this circle is the present. Art-confort is rejected and with it past-confort, history-comfort. People who struggle for the minimum of material aims, necessary and permanent comfort in life, hate the aesthetical comfort of the first circle-zone.

Third circle: union of the other two. (Strange, yet to be expected.) The circle-past becomes here the circle-idea, the permanence and the presence.

Circle-perfectability, Eros, where history is the unique idea-truth and where art, which is almost-history and nothing else, become thus, almost, the unique witness of the unique Truth. And it was shown to us there, accordingly, that the time-center of this circle is the future. For the past, the history, the art of the circle-aesthetics means change—in the sense of transformation, of correspondence understood as comprehension of memory of change and motion; on the other hand, the idea, the present, the permanent in the circle—perfection means immobility, unspeakable immobility there, a timeless categorical arrest, total transfer, substitution.

I said earlier that Iran gave birth without realizing it to a unique aesthetic form; it remains for Iran to find it again, but in full consciousness of its worth. Such a revival could have universal repercussions. It is sufficent to think what such a renaissance, which would truly continue its gret past, could give anew to the artistic searchings of the modern West, searchings which are at the same time so akin to the Iranian past: the art of a Van Gogh, for example, or that, so entirely oppsite, of a Picasso.

The economic and political decline of Iran in the 18th and 19th centureis, due more to the internal contradictions and chaos of a decaying system than to the violence of wars, carried along with it impoverishment of thought and of art. We can, through art, perticipate in a past event: can we equally influence it, correct it, change it? A complete rehabilitation of the material life of the Iranian people will surely bring about a renaissance of its creative consciousness.

I said above and long ago: "The decadence of an imperial civilization usually coincides with the renaissance of its deeply rooted popular ideology submerged under the upper levels of the huge sociological structure." For instance, the late Roman art (3rd-5th century A.D.), so rude, so "decadent," yet so deeply evocative—opened Rome's deepest, now folk, stratum: the Etruscan and proto-Etruscan worlds.

There is more. Iran is passing through a new renaissance. If all these historical deductions should be accepted as historically true in their premises, the example of that first (Sassanian) remaissance would acquire a singular value today. For it would be clear that the officially sponsored renaissance in Iran today camot ofully achieve its purposes simply by means of a well-studied imitation—no matter how intelligent and how ell adapted to actual conditions of life—of a stratified court art like Safavid, but can attain its end only if the exploitation of that style is paralleled by a penetration into this art of the people which certainly exists.

I would repeat: One should vigilantly (studiously) control, promote, potect and direct on all



levels of Iranian productivity, the emergence now, in full light of national, cautious awareness of Iran's most ancient aesthetic formula—apotheosis (*d'ailleurs*, you know.)

(Concluded)